5.

A SHORT

Survey or Hiſtory of THE KINGDOME OF *SVEDEN*.

Containing

A BRIEFE DESCRIPTION OF ALL THE PROVINCES OF his whole Dominion:

As alſo the riches of his Kingdome, the antiquity, nature, and manners of that Nation; With the Government of his Realme, Might, *and Power of this great King, as well by Sea as by Land; his great Officers, his Cuſtomes and Revenues of the Crowne.*

With a Genealogy and Pedegree of the Kings of SVEDEN of thoſe eſpecially who have reigned theſe laſt five hundred yeers, with ſome of their moſt memorable Acts and Deeds, with their Alliance and Iſſue or Off-ſpring.

Something alſo more particularly concerning that Illuſtrious invincible Great GVSTAVS ADOLPHVS the II. and of his Wars with the *Ruſſian, Denmarke* and *Poland*: As alſo of his moſt Memorable Acts ſince his comming to the Crowne, as well before, as ſince his entring into *Germany*, untill this preſent yeere 1632.

LONDON:
Printed for *Michael Sparke*, and are to be ſold by *Iames Boler* at the *Marigold* in *Pauls*-Church-yard. 1632.

The Contents or principall heads handled in this whole Discourse.

1 *OF the division of all these Northerne Countries, and antiquity of the kingdome of Sweden, together with the large extent of this dominion, and the commodities this kingdome affords.*

2 *A more particular survey of the kingdome of Sweden, with a short description of the particular parts or Provinces thereof, and the benefit they yeeld to the king and subiect.*

3 *Of the nature, manners, and cuſtomes of the Swediſh or Suetians, and into how many rankes or degrees the people are divided, where the Clergie is alſo comprehended.*

4 *Of the politicke and civill government of the kingdome of Sweden. Of their five great Colledges, or courts of Iuſtice, and ſome others alſo. Of the chiefe great officers of the kingdome.*

Of the might and power of the king of Sweden, both by ſea and land: of his horſe and foot forces, and great ſtore of braſſe ordnance. Of the great number of warre-ſhips and other ſhips for ſeruice, and the great number of marriners wherewith this kingdome is for all occaſions furniſhed.

6 *Of cuſtomes and tributes, or ſubſidies ordinary and extraordinary belonging to the king of Sweden.*

7 *A catalogue of ſome kings of Sweden, together with ſome of their moſt memorable acts.*

8 *A more particular ſurvey of the laſt kings of this countrey, of theſe laſt 500. yeares, with ſome other principall acts, alliance, iſſue, or offſpring.*

9 *Of great* Guſtavus Adolphus *this preſent king now reigning, with his moſt memorable Acts, both before and after his entring into Germany.*

THE DESCRIPTION OF THE KINGDOME OF SWEDEN.

I.

Vr moderne Geographers call all those Northern countries of *Europe* declining towards the North, the Northern world. This whole countrey (say they) is divided into two parts, *Scania*, and *Dania*, *Scandia*, or *Scandinania*, by *Pliny*, called an Iland of unknowne greatneſſe, hems in & begirts about all the northermoſt part of *Europe*. This is a large and vaſt Region, extending it ſelfe from the 55. to the 72. degree of northerly latitude, above 1000.

Diviſion of the Northern world.

English miles, and from the 25. to the 65. degree of longitude, or 2400 of our miles. On the ſouth ſide, it borders on *Germany* and *Denmarke*; on the North and Weſt, on the Ocean Sea, and on the Eaſt on *Ruſsia*. The parts of this countrey lying neereſt to the South, where the Pole is not elevated above 60 degrees is indifferent temperat; the Region lying betwixt the 60. degree and the arctick circle, are not ſo temperate, howbeit, the intemperature of the ayre is well regulated with the fertility of the ſoyle, in ſuch places eſpecially as are not covered over with woods, or rocks, in the ſouth & eaſterne parts principally. But the extreme, or moſt notthern parts, lying betwixt the arctick circle, and the pole arctick, enjoy neither a temporate ayre, nor yet a fruitful ſoile, and ſince, by reaſon of the faint heat of the Sun, corne could not there well ripen, therefore the wiſe Creator of all things hath furniſhed theſe countries with great variety of wild beaſts and divers rivers, lakes & gulfes furniſhed with variety of wholeſome fiſhes, for the ſuſtaining of the inhabitants lives. It would ſeem that this *Scandia* was in former times far more populous, then it is at this time, witneſſe theſe frequent tranſmigrations, and, as it were, inundations of the *Scanzian* people into other remote regions of the world; when as partly by reaſon of the multitude, and naturall fecundity or fruitfulnes of that people, partly by reaſon of dearth of corn, & partly by their inclination to war and avoyding idlenes, like Bees they ſought out new hives for

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themſelves and their children, and thoſe great heapes of ſtones, even at this day in the moſt deſarts & woods to be ſeen, & in former times, no doubt gathered together to cleanſe the high waies, do undoubtedly evidence unto us, that in former times all thoſe places have bin peopled, and therefore not without great reaſon, did the ancient writers call this country, a ſhop of people: *Officinam gentiū populorū que vaginam*, & from hence have we not only the *Normans*, *Suevians*, *Vandals*, & divers other nations: but the *Weſtorgoths*, and *Oſtrogoths*, alſo who after many peregrinations, thorow many Provinces and Kingdomes, whom they wearied out with their wars, at length they ſetled themſelves in *Spain*, where even at this day they beare rule.

This *Scandia*, or *Scādinavia*, comprehends under it 2 northern kingdomes, *Sweden* & *Norway*. The kingdome of *Sweden*, as witneſſe the *Scanzian* hiſtories, is more ancient then any of the others, from whoſe Kings hath the ancient families of the Kings of *Denmark* & *Norway*, are deſceneded for *Dan* firſt King of *Denmark*, from whence this country was called *Dania*, or *Danmarchia* was the ſonne of *Humelus* the 16 King of *Sweden*, and the *Norvegians*, in their Chronicle, before ever they come to their owne, reckon vp 25 Kings of *Sweden*, of whom is deſcended *Hwithen*, by the mother deſcended of one *Soluon*, a certaine Prince of *Norway* ſucceeded him in his dominion, and haviuing not a little inlarged the ſame, left it to his lawfull heires and ſucceſſros, from whom

Antiqnity of the kingdome of *Sweden*.

Haraldus Harfagher, being lineally descended in the fourth degree, having vanquished and expelled all the other petty Kings, did there first of all establish an absolute Monarchy, as witnesseth the ancient Chronicle of *Norway*, written by Master *Iohn Martinus Slangerupensis*, and published in *Denmarke*, *Anno*. 1595.

Of this kingdome of *Sweden*, I purpose now to say some thing, as I finde it written in the *Swedish* History, howbeit, as briefely as I can: and speaking of the countrey, I shall say something of the several Provinces and Territories belonging to this Crowne, the commodities and riches they yeeld, both to King and Subject; as also concerning the politicke government, together with divers customes of this countrey. In the next place, something shall be said of the might and power of this great King, both by Sea and Land, his chiefe Officers of State, &c. and then come wee to the Kings of that countrey, both ancient and of latter times, with some of their chiefe acts, and the latter Kings alliances. In the last place is something more particularly said concerning this great *Gustavus Adolphus* now raigning, and his chiefe acts, both before and since his expedition into *Germany*, briefly handled.

The King of *Sweden*, or *Swethland*, call it as you list, although untill now of late yeeres, not so much taken notice of in these parts of the world as many other Princes and Potentates; yet may

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it well appeare that hee is no meane Prince, nor of ſmall power. His chiefe countrey, and from which he takes his chiefe denomination, is called by ſome *Suconia*, and the people from thence *Sueones*: as alſo, and with us moſt frequently *Suevia*, and the people *Suevi*; now there is in high *Germany*, another countrey ſounding ſomewhat like it, called *Suevia*, the people *Suevi*, and in high *Dutch*, *Swaben*, bordering on *Bavaria*, being a colonie in former times come out of this countrey of *Sweden*, of whom my purpoſe is not here to ſpeake. This potent King then hath under his dominion, not onely this country of *Sweden*, properly ſo called, but alſo *Gothland*, *Flinland*, and a great part of *Lapland*, beſides ſome Territories in the dominion of the great Duke or Knez of *Ruſsia*, or *Muſcovia*, as hereafter ſhall appeare. This countrey is a very fruitfull ſoyle, a land flowing with milke and honey, and yeelding corne in great abundance; beſides the great abundance of mettalls digged out of the bowells of the earth, and the excellency of the paſtures of this land, may from hence appeare, that ſome countrey people of *Holland*, removing their habitation into *Sweden*, affirmed that they made as much butter of 60. meaſures of milke there, as they did in *Holland* of a hundred the like meaſures. This pleaſant countrey is repleniſhed with innumerable lakes, furniſhed with moſt daint y fiſhes; & out of theſe ſame lakes do run and iſſue out many pleaſant and profitable

Suconia.

Suevia.

rivers. This country is in the South parts more plain & even; but towards the North and Weſt more mountainous, not without great ſtore of woods, very uſefull for the fining of thoſe mettals, in ſo great abundance digg'd out of many of thoſe mountaines. The maritane parts not of *Swethland* onley, but of *Finland* alſo, are for the moſt part environed with high and ſteepe rocky hils & Ilands, many of them being ſcarce covered with greene graſſe, and this is the cauſe why it is ſo hard and difficult a matter for ſtrangers, without ſome skilfull Pilot of the naturall inhabitans, to ſaile neere their ſhore, and ſtrangers at their firſt approaching wonder that ſuch a country ſhould afford the inhabitants meanes to ſuſtaine life, until ſuch time, as they are better acquainted with the inner parts of the countrey; and this land hath likewiſe commerce with the Ile of *Britaine Denmarke, Norway, Poland, Ruſsia*, and ſuch other Notherne Regions beyond the 50 or 51 degrees of Northerly latitude, that it bringeth forth none of that noble liquor of the grape, which is notwithſtanding in great abundance brought from other countries, and beſides, they are well furniſhed with good ale and beere for their ordinary drinke.

Diviſion of the kingdome of *Sweden*.

2.

The Kingdome of *Sweden* is divided into *Sweden, Gothland, Finland, Ingria* and *Eſthionia*. *Sweden*, or *Swethland*, called *Suecia*, or *Sucovia*, into *Sucovia*, properly ſo called, and the *Northlands*, *Nordlandias*.

Nordlandia. Of *Suevia*, properly ſo called, are theſe parts or Provinces following. *Vplandia*, *Veſtmania*, *Dalecharlia Nevira* and *Suedermania*. This country *Vplandia* hath moſt commonly bin graced with the pre-eminence above the reſt, and where the King hath moſt commonly kept his Court. This country is very well furniſhed with plenty of very good corne, the which is liberally imparted, to theſe daily diggers of mettalls upon the mountaines. It is not deſtitute of good mines of yron, and leed eſpecially, and in ſome places, of ſilver alſo, although not very much. It is againe divided into three folk-lands (as they call them) that is; ſhires, or Provinces of three people; and theſe againe ſub-divided into ſmaller parts, much anſwerable to our diviſion of hundred, and which name they alſo attribute unto them. Of all the cities and townes, uot only of this, but of all the other Provinces of the *Swediſh* dominions, *Stackholme* is the chiefe, and where the King moſt cõmonly makes his abode and reſidence, ſeated in an Iland among the waters, as *Venice*, for the which cauſe it had this name impoſed. By meanes of the lake *Melæus* it heth brought from the inland al maner of grain, butter, cheeſe, and ſuch other commodies uſefull for the life of man, as alſo copper, yron, and other mettals; and again, by the ſame way ſends them back ſuch cõmodities as are brought from remote regions: and by the ſea it is ſupplied with wine, oile, ſalt, &c. It is much of the ſame degree of northerly latitude with the city *Aberden* in the north of

Suevia and the parts thereof.

Vplandia.

Commodities of this countrey.

Mines in this countrey.

Diviſion of *Vplandia*.

Stockholme.

of *Scotland*, it being ſeated in the South part of *Sweden*, to wit, betwixt the 58. and 59. degree.

Vpſalia. Next unto it, is *Vpſalia*, ſomtime the royal ſeat of the adjacent northerne parts: for there was kept the Kings Court, the ſupreme court of juſtice, and there was alſo the Archbiſhops ſea with a faire cathedrall Church, the which onely of all the reſt, continueth yet untill this day. There there is alſo a famous Vniverſity, of the which more hereafter. This City is ſeated, as it were, in the very center of this rich Province, on the banke of the River *Sala*. Beſides theſe, there are yet in this Province ſome others of good note, howbeit, inferiour to the former, to wit, *Enccopia*, *Sigrundia*, *Oregrundia*.

Veſtmania. The next Province of *Suevia*, is *Veſtmania*, in fertility nothing inferiour to *Vplandia*, but in mettalls farre exceeding the ſame: for in it is a very rich ſilver mine, called *Salbergh*; as for good yron and ſteele, there is there alſo great abun-

Rich Mines. dance, where mines of copper, lead and brimſtone are not alſo wanting. The chiefe Citty thereof is called *Groſia*, and commonly *Weſteras*, adorned with a Biſhops ſea, and a cathedrall Church, where is alſo a faire ſtately caſtle to be ſeene, and heere may one ſee great ſtore of copper and lead brought from the hils of that countrey: There are yet beſides this, the Townes *Arbogia* and *Koping* abounding with the ſame mettalls, but yron eſpecially.

Dalecharlia. The Province of *Dalecharlia*, although it be

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not inferiour to the former in the abundance of mettalls and mineralls, yet in the abundance of good copper digged out of these deepe vaults and cavernes, to the no small amazement of such as are not acquainted with such sights, it doth farre exceede any other; and besides copper, the same myne yeeldeth yet great store of brimstone, alum and copperas. And the water which is drawne from thence, changeth yron into good copper, with the losse of the fourth part, if the waight of the yron be in small pieces; and the third part only, if the pieces be great and thick. This countrey yeelds also good store of graine; howbeit, scarce sufficient to furnish those laborious painefull pioners, there being there such a number of them maintained at worke. A profitable water.

Next unto it, is *Nericia*, where although there be a silver myne, yet yeelding but small benefit, is therefore neglected. The mynes of brimstone yeeld also store of alum and copperas. It would seeme, that all the inhabitants of this countrey, are borne naturall Smiths: for they send abroad into all the neighbouring countries all manner of yron implements. They have but one citty, called *Orebregia*. *Nericia.*

The last is *Sudermannia*, which is neyther destitute of mettalls, nor yet of good store of yron, especially the parts adjoyning to the great lake *Melerus*. The chiefe city of this countrey is *Nycopia*, a famous port for traficke, and withall adorned with a faire castle, whereto the Duke of this *Sudermannia.* *Nycopia.*

countrey moſt commonly had his abode. Next is *Strengoſia* an Epiſcopall Sea, with a Cathedrall Church, graced with the dead corps of *Charles* the 9. of that name, and father to the moſt famous and victorious King, great *Guſtavus* now raigning. There are yet ſome other Townes belonging to this teritory, to wit, *Tolga*, *Torſilia*, and *Troſa*, all very rich and commodious for trafficke and commerce.

Strengoſia.

Tolga, Torſilia, Troſa.

The other part of *Sweden*, is properly called by the name of *Northland*. Of this *Northland*, there are two Provinces, *Geſtricia* & *Helſingia*. *Geſtricia*, had corne enough to ſupply the inhabitants wants, and beſides, is well furniſhed with yron mynes: It hath in it one very good City, called *Gervalia*, ſeated by the Sea-ſide, as well for exportation, as importation of all manner of commodities, and about halfe a daies journey from the coper mynes. By ancient records, it appeareth that this *Helſingia* in former times, was a generall name, comprehending the reſt of the Northern Provinces, and the *Scanzian* Hiſtories doe teſtifie, that this ſame country in former times, was graced with the Title of a kingdome, and was governed by Kings, until ſuch time as *Ingellus*, King of *Vpſalia*, and father to *Olavus Tretelias*, King of *Vermelandia*, at his coronation burnt to aſhes, the laſt *Helſingian* King, with ſome other moe, whoſe kingdome hee after incorporated to that of *Vpſalia*. Many other things concerning the antiquity and valour of this Nation, for bre-

Northland. Geſtricia.

Gervalia.

Helſingia, ſometimes a kingdome.

Helſingians, an ancient people.

vity,

vity, I purpoſely let paſſe. Among all the *Swediſh* people, theſe are moſt remarkable for their great hoſpitality; and beſides, they are ſo affectionate to learning, that although publike Schooles for good literature, be but rare among them, yet are private perſons, who have attained to any learning, ſo forward to inſtruct their neighbours, that it is a hard mattter to find one going at plough, but hee can read. The inhabitants of this country, are either *Helſingians*, properly ſo call'd, or *Laplanders*. Of the *Helſingians*, then the Provinces, or theſe: *Helſingia* properly ſo called, *Medelpadia*, *Angermania*, and *Bothnia*.

Affectionate to learning.

This *Heſingia*, properly ſo called, was formerly caled *Sundhede* and *Nordſlegh*. The ſoyle of this country is fruitfull enough, and the inhabitants much addicted to grazing of cattle, and many of them are very induſtrious in making of linnen cloth, and not unskilfull in many other manuall trades, ſome being alſo addicted to fiſhing. It containeth one good city, *Hudinſwaldia*, whoſe inhabitants tranſport into other countries great ſtore of butter, tallow, hides and skins, pitch and rozen, maſts for ſhips, clap-boord and the like.

Helſingia properly ſo called.

Hudinſwaldia.

Medelpadia is much of the ſame nature & quality with *Helſingia*, but that it is ſomewhat narrow and fuller of woods. It is furniſhed with 2 good rivers, well ſtor'd with exceeding good fiſh, as Salmons eſpecially, and it is ſuppoſed, that in former times, the *Helſingian* Kings kept their Court in this Countrey.

Medelpadia.

Angermannia, although it be full of high and

Angermannia.

steepe rockes, yet are the vallies so fruitfull, that if but once in ten yeeres compassed, they bring forth every yeere exceeding good corne, if the unseasonablnesse of the weather, doe not sometimes frustrate the husband-mans expectation. It is, as it were, divided into two armes, the one more southerly, running towards the West; the other towards the Sea, and further to the North. It is watered with one faire river, abounding with divers sorts of good fishes, Salmons especially: there is in it also one faire city.

Fertility of the soyle.

Bothnia.

Bothnia is not so hilly as this *Angermannia*, and yet by reason of the sandy soyle, and the coldnesse of the climat, the countrey is not so fruitfull as the former, which defect, notwithstanding, is well supplyed with the abundance of other commodities. It is very well watered with divers great rivers, abounding with very good fish, Salmons, especially: It hath in it no city, howbeit, every Parish is, as it were, a towne of trafficke and commerce; for in summer they provide store of corne, and such other commodities, as their neighbour *Laplanders* want, which they buy of such as trafficke into their countrey, which commodities in the winter they carry into *Lapland*, where all rivers and rivers and lakes are hard frozen; and bring again backe from thence great abundance of rich furres, fishes dryed and hardened with the frost, and many the like commodities.

Lappiania, or *Lappie*.

Next followes *Lapponia*, or *Lappia*, called commonly

monly *Lapland*, and the inhabitants *Lappones*, *Laplanders*. This is the northermoſt Province belonging to this potent Prince, a large and vaſt countrey, but hath neyther corne-fields, cities nor townes. The countrey is full of hills, woods, rivers, lakes and pooles; and in many places very good paſtures. The people are ingenious enough and civill, living moſt by hunting and fiſhing: They live like unto the *Tartars*, travelling in great troupes together, with their cattell, and ſettle about ſome river or lake, where there is good paſture for their cattell, and when that is all eaten up, remove to another place. Adultery and murther is ſcarce heard of among that people, nor yet any theft, and merchants travelling that way, ordinarily leave their wares, covered onely with ſome old cloth to keepe off the ſnow, and after divers daies, at their returne, never miſſe any of their goods. Their apparrell is made of skinnes of beaſts and wollen cloth brought to them from other countries; as for linnen cloth they have none; but to ſew their clothes, they make thred of the nerves or ſinewes of beaſts, dryed, beaten, and dreſſed like flaxe, with the which they both ſew their garments, & cover the ſame alſo with tinne, as we doe with ſilver and ſo adorne their garments therewith, as we doe with ſilver and gold lace. In former times, they were much addicted to ſorceryand witchcraft, howbeit, that is now well reformed. In ſtead of houſes they uſe

Their manner of life.

Their innocencie.

Their apparell.

Strange thred.

Their tents.

Their tents. uſe tents made of the barke of birch ſowed together. In the winter time, they meete togther at certaine places, and faile not, where both theſe aforementioned merchants, find them to The meetings trafficke with the Kings cuſtomers, to demand their tribute, and the Churchmen were wont to come to catechize them, and to baptize their children, &c. But *Charles* the 9. and father to this famous and great *Guſtavus*, now raigning, built in ſeverall places of this country certaine chappells, and churches for the exerciſe of Religion.

Nature of the people. This people is nimble, active, and very good ſouldiers, which if envy it ſelfe ſhould deny, yet that memorable battell fought neer *Leipzig* will witnes to the worlds end: ſome of the hils of this country yeeld precious ſtones, *viz.* Diamonds, Topazes, and Amethiſts.

Good ſoldiers Diamonds, Topazes, and Amethiſts. among them.

At this day, theſe *Laplanders* are ſubject t[o] Kings, of *Sweden*, *Denmark*, and the great Du[ke] *Ruſsia*. The greateſt, & the beſt part of this c[oun]try, *viz.* all the South, & mediterranian part, [be]longs to the King of *Sweden*, a very huge [and] countrey, extending from the 69. to the 71. de[gree] of northerly latitude, being above 400. miles in length and above 360. in breadth.

Diuiſion of this countrey. This country is diuided into 5. ſeveral territories, or juriſdictions, called *Lapmarchia*, to wit, *Vmalapmarck*, *Pitalapmarck*, *Tornlapmarck*, & *Kimilapmarck*, whoſe inhabitants pay tribute to none but to the King of *Sweden*. To *Norway*, now under the daniſh King, belongeth that tract running a-

long

long the sea-coast, called *Finmarchia*, and the inhabitants *Siofuni*, or maritime inhabitants, living upon fish onely. The rest belongs to the *Russian* Prince, from the castle of *Vardhus* to the mouth of the *milbrie* sea, in the *Swedish* tongue called *Trennes*: in the *Laplanders* language *Pribinicunni*; and in the *Russian* speech *Tarchanavolech* even at this day.

Gothia.

Now next after the country of *Sweden* followes in order *Gothia*, or *Gothland*; as if one should say, a good land, being also subect to the Crowne of *Sweden*, & divided from the same by a great wood only. This is the ancient country, and naturall soile of so many warlike people, which in former ages have made their names famous to future generations, which honour many other nations would willingly assume unto themselves, the wch subject, for brevities sake, I must here passe.

Division of this country.

This countrey is divided into two parts, East and West *Gothland*. To West *Gothland* belong these Provinces following *Vestrogothia*, *Dalia* and *Vermelandia*, vnto which some joyne *Hallandia*.

Vestrogothia.

Vestrogothia, as it is somewhat inferiour to the most fruitfull parts of *Sweden*, in regard of corne; so doth it againe in good pastures for cattle exceed them; wherein consists their chiefe riches, as the others in their tillage, & increase of corn. It is also watered with many rivers, yeelding great store of fish, besides divers Citties and Townes. The Citties are *Gotheburgum*, a great and rich staple for trafficke; *Slara* an

Citties.

Episcopall

Their tents, uſe tents made of the barke of birch ſowed together. In the winter time, they meete togther at certaine places, and faile not, where both theſe aforementioned merchants, find them to The meetings trafficke with the Kings cuſtomers, to demand their tribute, and the Churchmen were wont to come to catechize them, and to baptize their children, &c. But *Charles* the 9. and father to this famous and great *Guſtavus*, now raigning, built in ſeverall places of this country certaine chappells, and churches for the exerciſe of Religion.

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Good ſoldiers Diamonds, Topazes, and Amethiſts. among them.

At this day, theſe *Laplanders* are ſubject to 3. Kings, of *Sweden*, *Denmark*, and the great Duke of *Ruſsia*. The greateſt, & the beſt part of this country, *viz.* all the South, & mediterranian part, belongs to the King of *Sweden*, a very huge vaſt countrey, extending from the 69. to the 71. degree of northerly latitude, being above 400. miles in length and above 360. in breadth.

Diuiſion of this countrey. This country is diuided into 5. ſeveral territories, or juriſdictions, called *Lapmarchia*, to wit, *Vmalapmarck*, *Pitalapmarck*, *Tornlapmarck*, & *Kimilapmarck*, whoſe inhabitants pay tribute to none but to the King of *Sweden*. To *Norway*, now under the daniſh King, belongeth that tract running a-

long

long the sea-coast, called *Finmarchia*, and the inhabitants *Siofuni*, or maritime inhabitants, liviug upon fish onely. The rest belongs to the *Russian* Prince, from the castle of *Vardhus* to the mouth of the *milbrie* sea, in the *Swedish* tongue called *Trennes*: in the *Laplanders* language *Pribinienni*; and in the *Russian* speech *Tarchanavolech* even at this day.

Gothia.

Now next after the country of *Sweden* followes in order *Gothia*, or *Gothland*; as if one should say, a good land, being also subect to the Crowne of *Sweden*, & divided from the same by a great wood only. This is the ancient country, and naturall soile of so many warlike people, which in former ages have made their names famous to future generations, which honour many other nations would willingly assume unto themselves, the wch subject, for brevities sake, I must here passe.

Division of this country.

This countrey is divided into two parts, East and West *Gothland*. To West *Gothland* belong these Provinces following *Vestrogothia*, *Dalia* and *Vermelandia*, vnto which some joyne *Hallandia*.

Vestrogothia.

Vestrogothia, as it is somewhat inferiour to the most fruitfull parts of *Sweden*, in regard of corne; so doth it againe in good pastures for cattle exceed them; wherein consists their chiefe riches, as the others in their tillage & increase of corn. It is also watered with many rivers, yeelding great store of fish, besides divers Citties and Townes. The Citties are *Gotheburgum*, a great and rich staple for trasficke; *Slara* an

Citties.

Episcopall

Episcopall Sea, *Mariestadum*, and *Lidcopia*. The townes thereof *Fabropia*, *Sbredni*, *Hin*, *Bogesund*, *Beretta*, and *Lindosia* the old.

Townes.

Dalia, is a mountainous countrey in most places; hath many fishie rivers and lakes, and pasture for cattell in no small abundance, in so much, that there are farre greater oxen found in that countrey, then in other places.

Dalia.

Vermelandia, among all the *Gothish* Provinces best inhabited, and colonies first carried thither by *Olaus Trekelius*. It is a hilly and wood-land countrey, yet not unfurnished, of yron mynes, and one of copper reasonable rich, but lately found out. In it is one citty called *Carolostadium*, built by *Charles* the 9. in a place before called *Tingualla*, *Hallandia*, a little countrey adjoyning thereto, because belonging to the King of *Denmarke*, I there of set purpose passe by.

Vermelandia.

Caroloſtadium.

The Provinces of East-*Gothland*, are *Ostrogothia*, *Smalandia*, and *Oelandia*, with which in former times, were also reckoned *Gotlandia*, *Scania*, and *Blecking ia Ostrogothia*, is for the most part a plaine champian countrey, and so fruitfull, that it exceedeth many other Provinces of *Sweden*, and by some thought, not to equall onely, but even to exceede *Vpland* it selfe, the principall Province of the whole *Swedish* dominion. It is exceeding pleasant, and very well furnished with many fishie rivers, abundance of wild beasts and wild fowle; and finally, whatsoever is useful for mans sustnance, except wine and salt. Neither is it

Ostrogothia.

Fertility of the soyle.

furnished

unfurnished of mynes in the mountanous parts of *Godegard*, *Helleſtaberg*, and *Vongaberg*. In it is ſeated the City *Vadſtenan*, adorned with a faire caſtle, and an Abbey dedicate to Saint *Brigeta*. There is beſides it, *Scheningia*, ſometimes of great fame and note, but now reduced to the forme of a Towne, *Lanicopia*, an Epiſcopall Sea, *Norcopia*, and *Sudercopia*, two famous ſtaples, or Townes for trafficke.

Smalandia, a large country, above 300. miles in compaſſe, and is, for the moſt part, full of great woods, and yet for good paſtures, nothing inferiour to many of the neighbour countries, inſomuch that they ſend many very great fed cattle into *Denmarke*, which are from thence yeerely in great abundance ſent into all high *Germany* and the lowcountries. In it are alſo great ſtore of great rivers & lakes, wel ſtored with abundance of excellent good fiſh. In that part called *Tinſtia* there are copper mines newly found out. In *Taberg* there are good ſteele mynes: and beſides, out of their lakes, they gather a certaine rude matter, which with very ſmall labour is made very good yron. This countrey is divided into divers parts, the principall whereof, are *Tieherad*, *Verandia*, *Tivetia*, as alſo *Finberdia* and *Mantingia*, famous for the *Longobards* expedition. Cities for the largeneſſe of the countrey it hath not many; the chiefe are *Calmaria*, *Ieveco-pia*, *Vexio* an Epiſcopall Sea, *Elreſio*, and *Veſterwile*.

Smalandia.

Good paſtures.

Mines of copper and ſteele.

Diviſion of this country.

Olandia.

Olandia is a rich and fruitfull Iland, abounding in many rich commodities. But becauſe this Iland, as likewiſe *Hallandia* and *Bleckingia* are at this preſent under the obedience of the *Daniſh* King, I will here paſſe by it. And yet ſhall it not be out of purpoſe to take notice that theſe Ilands have beene the cauſe of great quarrells and controverſies betwixt theſe two neighbouring *Princes*, *Sweden* and *Denmark*: and no leſſe cotnrouerſie hath it cauſed among Writers, ſome pretending a right, ſome a long preſcription of time ro corroborate the Title of their Prince, whoſe right they tooke upon them to maintaine.

Occaſion of warres betwixt the two neighbouring Princes.

Finlandia.

Next in order followes *Finland*, which ſome thinke ſo to be called in compariſon of *Sweden*, as though it did in fruitfulneſſe farre exceed it, who are foulely deceived: for it is more probable that it was firſt called *Fiendland*, by reaſon of the great hoſtility thoſe *Finlanders* exerciſed againſt this nation, ſo long as they were commanded by a King of their owne. This countrey abounds in corne, paſtures, fiſh, and fowle; and finally, in ſuch things as are moſt neceſſary for the life of man: this people is very laborious and able to endure hardſhip. Of old they were eſteemed the mildeſt among all thoſe *Scanzian* people, howbeit, at this day, they be ſomewhat harſher, and their valour in warre was well witneſſed in this laſt memorable battle, fought neere *Leipſig* in *Miſnia*. They have a peculiar language,

VVhy ſo called.

Nature of this people.

language of their owne, in the which are some singularities to be observed; namely, that some letters they cannot pronounce: as B, D, G, and that they want the letter F, neyther have they any word beginning with two consonants, and therefore when they pronounce any such word, in other languages, they leave out such letters: and for this cause, if they be not sent abroad while they are yet young, they can never learne to pronounce forreigne languages, and thus for *gratus*, they pronounce *ratus*, for *ſpes*, *pes*: for *Dominus*, *tominus*: for *bonus*, *ponus*, &c. And this is the reason, why the Nobles, Merchants, and others of ability, send their youth to be instructed in the *Swediſh* tongue, by which meanes they are afterwards fitted for the learning of any other. Againe, in their language, they obserue no genders, having one onely articles, *ſe*, which they attribute to both sexes, and to all genders. Some others for brevity, I here willingly passe by. These *Finlanders* in former times, had Kings of their owne nation, great warres with the *Swediſh*, untill such time as being by *Ericus* King of *Sweden*, subdued in the yeere 1130. they were also forced to embrace the Christian faith. Now this King subdued not the whole countrey, but afterwards *Birgerus Jeri* subdued *Tavaſtia*, and againe *Turgillus* subdued *Runts*, or *Carelia*, and about the yeere 1193. the better to keepe them in obedience, and withall to inhibit the

Singularities in their languages.

When, and by whom first subdued.

incursions of the *Russians*, hee built the castle *Viburg*.

Division of the country.

Finland is divided into the South & North, *Caiania*, *Savelaxia*, *Tavastia*, *Nylandia* and *Carlia*: The Northerne part is divided from the Southerne by the river *Amarokei*, running hard by the Episcopall sea *Abo*. In the Westerne part thereof, is that old castle *Guste*, now ruinated; in the East part the castle *Rasceberg*, together with the jurisdiction thereto belonging. The Northerne part thereof extends it selfe towards the Bothnicke gulfe, Northward; comprehending the one and the other *Salagundia*, *Vienio*, and *Masco*. In it is a famous river called *Cumo-elffe*, abounding with Salmons, and many other dainty fishes, and neere the Episcopal City, *Biornebegh*, falling into the Sea. Betwixt this city and *Abo*, are the townes *Raumo*, *Nystadh*, and *Nadhandill*, where was of old, that famous Monastery, called the valley of grace.

Cities, towns and castles.

Caiania, called also the Easterne *Bothnia*, is furnished with many goodly fishie rivers. It hath lately built therein the towns *Vla* and *Vasa*; as also the castles *Caianoburgum* and *Vloburgum*.

Caiania.

Townes.

Savolaxia abounds with goodly lakes and rivers, and almost all of them disburden themselves by the river *Vox*, into that great lake, *Ladoga*. This lake *Togetha*, together with these rivers among all the rest of this *Scanzian* country, doe onely breed the seacalfe, called *Phoca*, and *Vitulus Marinus*. They are likewise furnished with

Savolaxia.

Lake-Ladoga.

with abundance of other good fishes and among others great Iackes and Pikes, which are from thence, being first dryed with the frost, in great abundance transported to *Viburgum*. In it is also a very faire strong castle, built in the yeere, 1475. by one *Ericus Axelson*, Master of the Kings housholde, and by him called Saint *Olaus* castle. Sea-castle. Nyslat.

Tavastia is a mediterranean countrey, and in it that famous and renowned lake *Pelende*. The strong castle of *Tavastia* was built by *Birgerus Jeri*, to curbe and keepe under these *Tavastians* by him newly conquered, and subjugated under the Crowne of *Sweden*, having withall compelled them to embrace the Christian religion. In the North parts of this countrey, the inhabitants fish out of the bottomes of their lakes a certaine rude matter, which, with small labour and paines, and as little charges, they make very good yron, and very serviceable for mans use. Tavastia. Nyslat or New-castle. Yron made of water.

Nylandia, not that it was so called, as though in former times it had beene without any inhabitants, but by reason that those who doe now inhabite the same, in comparison of other, were but newly come thither, for the *Helsingians* and other people of *Sweden*, sent thither their colonies. The countrey is fruitfull enough, and well furnished with store of fish, fowle & wild beasts for hunting. It hath in it two townes, *Borgo*, and *Helsingfors*. Nylandi. Townes.

Carelia is a large and vaſt Region, and ſeemeth that the old inhabitants lived moſt by their ſheepe and cattell: for *Curia* in their language, ſignifieth ſheepe or cattell. So long as the *Finlanders* had a King of their owne nation over them, all this countrey of *Carelia* belonged to *Finland*: but ſince the *Swediſh* did ſo much by warre annoy the inhabitants, that by little and little, they brought many of the Provinces of that country, to become tributary to them; the *Ruſſians* much ſuſpecting the power ariſing of ſo potent a neighbouring Prince, thought in time to anticipate his enemies, deſignes: for the which cauſe, this *Ruſſian* Prince by force of armes, made himſelfe Maſter of this whole countrey. And this ſame country was for many yeeres after the common theater of warre betwixt thoſe two potent Princes of *Sweden* and *Ruſsia*, and that for a long tract of time, with various and doubtfull event, ſometimes the one, and ſometimes again the other party prevailing, untill ſuch time as *Magnus*, ſurnamed *Smek*, King of *Sweden*, and *George*, Duke of *Novogardia* divided it equally betwixt them, ſetting & appointing their limits and bounds in *Syſterbecke*. Now how it came wholly within theſe few yeeres under the crowne of *Sweden*, ſhall hereafter in its proper place appeare. In this *Carelia* is that ſtrong city *Wiburg*, a famous ſtaple or mart towne for merchants, exceeding well fortified with ſtrong walls, and deepe large motes round about, and a

Wiburg.

ſtrong

ſtrong caſtle in the ſame. This ſame City have the *Ruſsians* often (but in vaine) beſieged with 100000. armed men. *Rexholmia*, by the *Sweatſs* corruptly ſo called, and by the *Ruſsians*, *Carelegorod*, or the fort or fortreſſe of *Carelia* is ſeated very ſtrongly in two little Ilands, at the mouth of the river *Wexen*, in the one of which is ſeated the city, and in the other the caſtle. The ſoyle is very fruitfull, eſpecially ſuch places as adjoyne next unto the great lake *Ladeſco Ozera*: but 15. or 20. miles further from the lake, it is ſo marſhie and fenny, that the mountainous and hilly parts thereof will onely beare corne, for the which cauſe the inhabitants there live moſt vpon fiſh and wild beaſts, and this aforementioned lake is one of the greateſt of all *Europe*, as being above 190. miles in length, and about 80. in breadth, and of this lake, about the fifth part onely belongs to the *Ruſsian* Prince, and all the reſt to the Crowne of *Sweden*. In this great lake, beſides the great abundance of Salmons and other fiſhes, there is there caught a little fiſh alſo little bigger then a hering, and in their language called Ladog (no where elſe in all *Ruſsia*, but there to be found) from whence this lake takes the denomination. In the countrey of *Rexholme*, are ſome rubies found.

Rexholmia.

Greateſt lake of all *Europe*.

A peculiar fiſh.

Rubies.

Next *Carelia*, followes both in the order of nature and ſituation the countrey called *Ingria*, which was but lately annexed to the Crowne of *Sweden*. The ſoile is very fruitful in the which are many

Ingria.

many rivers full of good wholeſome fiſh. Beſides, in that country is great ſtore of wild fowle and wild beaſts of ſeverall kinds; and among theſe they hunt moſt that wilde beaſt in Latin called *Alce*, in the *Swediſh* language, *Elgh*, and in high *Dutch Elent*. Theſe beaſts twice a yeere in great troopes paſſe over the river *Nieva*: for in the ſpring, they paſſe in great number out of *Ruſsia* into *Carelia*; and in harveſt againe returne the ſame way into *Ruſsia*. This countrey hath in it many ſtrong forts and caſtles, which have hitherto beene accounted the keyes of the *Ruſsian* kingdome, and no other in all his dominions with them to be compared. *Noiteburg* is the chiefeſt and ſtrongeſt hold of all the reſt, and therefore held impregnable, howbeit, at length taken in by the victorious King now reigning, as hereafter ſhall appeare. In the ſame country, are alſo Capurio, Iamarod, Caſtles not onely ſtrong by nature, but very well furniſhed alſo by the art of man.

Alce, Elgh, or Elent.

Noiteburg.

Capurio, Iamarod.

The laſt of all the Provinces belonging to this Crowne and Kingdome of *Sweden*, is called *Eſthonia*, being a part of that vaſt countrey, called *Livonia*, and hath not beene vnder the *Swediſh* gouernment above 60 and odde yeeres, and by this meanes came firſt under that iuriſdiction. Certaine Nobles who tooke upon them to propagate the Chriſtian religion being ſent for into *Livonia*, forgetting the errand they came about, gave themſelves wholly over to carnall

Eſthonia. How it came firſt under the Swediſh Crowne.

nall luſt, and gluttonie, and drunkenneſſe; and withall keeping the inhabitants in ſuch a baſe and ſlauiſh ſubiection, that they ſeemed rather to command ouer beaſts then men. And for this cauſe, God the auenger of all wrongs, and puniſher of all wickedneſſe ſtirred vp *Baſilius* the tyrant of Muſcovia to ſuppreſſe their inſolencie and puniſh their pride, who ſubdued a great part of Livonia, deſtroying all in their way that made reſiſtance, with fire and ſword. Theſe poore Livonians now perceiuing themſelves put to ſuch a ſtrait, implored the ayde of the Emperour *Charles* the 5. keeping then a dyet, or generall meeting of the whole eſtates of the Empire at Ausbourg 1551. this countrey then being a member of the Empire. The Emperour then, diſtracted with other warres, not being able to ſend them any ſuccour, wiſhed them to ſeeke for ſuccour and and ayde of the king of Sweden and other neighbouring Princes. The Revalians therefore, and the Oſelians demand ayde of the king of Denmarke, (Revalia being heretofore built by *Valdemarus*, a King of Denmarke, and from him received their priviledges) howbeit to no end And therefore finding no ſudden ſuccour againſt ſo mighty and potent a Prince, they were conſtrained to implore ayde of *Ericus* 14. king of Sweden, and therefore in the yere 1561. freely ſubmitted themſelves under his obedience; which petition of theirs notwithſtanding, his father *Guſtavus* had in his life time denied;

and therefore ſome are of opinion that this king *Ericus* brought vpon himſelfe and ſucceſſours a great deale of trouble. His ſonne *Iohn* was as wel ſucceſſour to this quarrell as to the kingdome, and tooke from the Ruſſian many of his ſtrong holds. The Provinces of this countrey of Eſthionia are, Revalia towards the North, ſeated neere vnto the Finnicke gulfe: *vizis* in which are theſe places, Refenburgh, Tolsburgh, and Borholme, Alentakia, where is that famous merchant ſtaple, Narua and Nyſtot; Iervia, where is Wittenſteyn and Lais: and Vickia, where are Hapſal, Lebal and Lode. And to this Eſthionia belong theſe Iſlands alſo: Dagho, Orinſo, Nuko, VVrango, Odensholme, Nargo, Vlſo, and the one and other Nogho; the inhabitants of which places, as alſo of Oſilea, and moſt of the maritime parts of the continent ſpeake the Swediſh language. In this great countrey of Livonia beſides the Swediſh, there are yet foure other ſeuerall languages ſpoken: the German or high Dutch, vſed by the Nobles and better ſort: in the North-parts towards the Finnicke gulfe the Eſthionian or Finnicke: in the mediterranean parts the Livonians, being now almoſt quite worne out: and finally in the South parts thereof they vſe the Letticke ſpeech, or of the countrey of Lettow, which the people Eureles likewiſe vſe, the which is as it were a hodge-podge of many ſeverall languages mingled together. And theſe languages differ not onely in dia-

Provinces of this countrey

Five ſeverall languages in Livonia.

dialects, but wholly and totally one from another. This whole countrey of Livonia, and consequently this Esthionia abound with all such things as are necessary for the life of man, and are vsually to be found in these Nottherne climats. And so much shall suffice shortly to haue said concerning the description of the countrey of Sweden, and Provinces subiect to the Swedish crowne.

Commodities of the countrey.

CHAP. III.

Of the nature, manners, and customes of the Suecians or Swedish, and into how many rankes or degrees all these people are diuided.

THis people is reasonable wittie and vnderstanding, and that not onely for learning and vnderstanding of any mechanicall trade, but even for the learning of the arts and sciences, as also any outlandish tongues whatsoeuer. For such as are of any eminent ranke and degree, or competent meanes, content not themselves with their Latine tongue and knowledge of the liberall arts, but give themselves also very much to the learning of the Germane or high Dutch & Frenchtongues. In former times their maners &

Nature of the inhabitants.

conditions were very plaine and homely, and although now ſomewhat declining from former ſimplicitie, yet are they farre from that height of luxurie and pride, whereunto many other nations are now ſo much addicted. The apparell of the vulgar ſort is but meane; but the Gentilitie are now ſomewhat given to follow outlandiſh faſhions, and to emulate their equalls. Private mens houſes as well in townes as the countrey, are for the moſt part, built low and of wood, and that both for warmth, and for avoyding the dint of great winds. In Stocke-holme notwithſtanding, and ſome other walled Cities and townes, moſt of their buildings, are either of bricke or free-ſtone. The countrey commonly yeelds plentie of good corne, and might yeeld more, if ſome of thoſe vaſt unprofitable woods were cut downe, howbeit there is there ſeldome felt any ſcarcitie of corne, unleſſe ſometimes the yeare proue very unſeaſonable, which in hotter climats commeth alſo ſometimes to paſſe: and in ſuch a caſe the countrey-people are ſometimes forced to make bread of the barke of the firre and pine-trees, which they eſteeme very wholeſome, agreeing well with their ſtomacks, and free from any maligne qualitie. Fiſh and fleſh is here very plentifull, howbeit neither in great requeſt freſh, but either ſalted up, or dryed in the ſunne or ſmoke. They are alſo well ſtored with veniſon, as alſo with wild fowle, ſuch eſpecially as are accounted the daintieſt.

Not ſo vicious as many other Nations.

Apparell of this people.

Their buildings.

Woods here very frequent

Bread of the barke of trees

The

The coniugall bed is among them kept undefiled and inviolable. Their maides are not there maried without consent of parents or guardians: neither yet is it lawfull for any man to betroth, or marry such a maide without the presence of 4 witnesses, two of the part of the bridegrome, and as many on the brides side, a penaltie of fourtie markes to bee imposed upon the partie that infringes this decree. When a maide is thus betrothed, the guardian may not obiect any thing to hinder the marriage, except it be very lawfull, and by the lawes of the land determined to be such; if he shall chance to doe otherwise, the bridegroome may lawfully breake open the doores, and carry her away by force if he cannot otherwise: and if there should by this meanes, either death or wounds ensue, no punishment shall be inflicted for wounds, or death of the resisting partie. But if the other partie that is about to recouer his spouse, be either wounded or killed, the punishment of such a resisting person shall be double, and the woman shall be esteemed lawfully rescued, and not ravished and taken by force. Againe, these be the words of the law-maker *Whosoeuer departs from his wife, and makes a contract and agreement to cohabite with another woman, the other wife to him before lawfully married being yet alive, and this be by sufficient witnesses, legally prooved, they shall both lose their lives: the man being beheaded, and the woman stoned to death.*

Adultery there vnknowne.

Manner of their marriage and betrothing.

Manner of ſucceeding in inheritances.

VVhen as either man or woman dyes, leaving children behind him, whether ſonnes or daughters, they ſhall ſucceed in the inheritance, the ſonne ſhall have two, and the daughter one part for her ſhare: and the nephew ſhall have the like ſhare as a ſonne, and the neece as a daughter, whether their children live or dye; but withall the fifth degree is here excluded from ſucceſſion.

If the heire be abſent.

If any perſon dye, whoſe next heire is without the Realme, if the heire returne within a yeare and a night, with ſufficient proofe that he is lawfull heire to the deceaſed partie, he ſhall as lawfull heire ſucceed to the partie deceaſed. But if he come not within a yeare and a night, the king ſhall be his heire, whether the goods bee moveable or unmoveable: and this is commonly called *Dana-arf*. If the goods given to any, be not moveable, let him receive them againe that gave them.

Dana arf,

If the heire be vnknowne

If any native of the country dye, and the heire be knowne, the inheritance ſhall be kept for the right heire: but if it be not knowne who is the right heire, and no word be ſent from him, or elſe ſome other aſſurance where he is, or that he come not within a yeere and a day; then the Kings exchequer ſhall receive the one halfe of his eſtate, and the other halfe was formerly to be employed for praying for his ſoule; but ſince the reformation of Religion converted, to other charitable uſes.

This

This people, not onely of late, but even of old hath been much commended for their great hoſpitalitie in entertaining ſtrangers; the which as it is common to all theſe Northerne people, ſo is it moſt conſpicuous in the Swediſh nation, it being eſteemed there a hainous indignitie to deny entertainment to ſtrangers and travellers, there being among them certain particular conſtitutions concerning this ſame particular. Beſides, they are of that ſinceritie of life and converſation, and ſo far from wronging others, that this hath cauſed no ſmal admiration to ſtrangers and travellers paſſing that way; which may in this appeare, that although there be very great forreſts found in that countrey, yet ſeldome any robberies by the high wayes are amongſt them heard of.

Their hoſpitality.

Robberies ſeldome heard of among this people.

In ancient times both the Swediſh and the Goths had their owne proper letters and language, howbeit their letters have beene by the firſt founders of Chriſtianitie in theſe parts quite aboliſhed, and Latine letters put in their places. And of this ſome render this reaſon, that among theſe people were many bookes full of their ancient heatheniſh ſuperſtition, which ſuperſtition of theirs they thought would hardly bee quite rooted out, vnleſſe as well their letters, as books written with thoſe letters were utterly aboliſhed. But by this meanes it is to bee ſuppoſed, that we are likewiſe deprived of many ancient acts and antiquities not unworthy the knowing, which

Gothiſh letters aboliſhed

which are by this meanes buried in eternall oblivion. And of this prerogative beyond all other people of Europe (the Grecians excepted) doth this nation bragge, that they never borrowed their letters of any other nation. And it is thought that if their letters and bookes had vntill this time continued, they might have contested for antiquity with the most famous histories, either Greeke or Latine. And therefore above all other nations the Goths were most admired for their opinion concerning the immortality of the soule: concerning which opinion, although there bee left no ancient records; yea and if there were no testimonie of strangers to witnesse the same; yet may this by many monuments even untill this day remaining, plainly appeare, the which are written upon great grave-stones in this same ancient character of Rumcke letters, as the author speakes, for in them were commonly added towards the latter end of the inscription, these words,

ᚺᚢᚦᚱᛁᚴᛏᛒᛚ·ᛋᚨᚾᛏ·ᚷᚨᚱᛋ

The Swedish much addicted to the high Dutch speech

That is, God helpe the soule of such a one. But as it hath fared with many other ancient nations that in continuance of time they have altered their ancient language; so hath this nation tasted likewise of the same alteration & change. For by reason of their commerce and trafficke with their neighbours the high Dutch, they have also borrowed much of their language, and

min-

mingled it with their owne, as may, by many arguments appeare; and the better ſort addict themſelves to learne this language in perfection. The like hath alſo befallen many other nations of the Chriſtian world. The Italian what is it elſe but a baſtard, compoſed of that pure elegant Latine ſpoken in *Tullies* time, and the rude languages of theſe barbarous nations, Goths, Vandals, and Longaburds, like an inundation in the declining of the Romane Empire, overflowing all Italy. What the Spaniſh tongue but the ſame Latine mingled with the ancient Gothiſh, and ſome others? And the moderne French tongue ſo i doliſed of every one is but the ancient Gaules (the ancient inhabitants of that countrey) language enterlarded with many Latine words. Now that this people is a great lover of learning and letters, may from hence appeare, that even at this day the very countrey people and ſhepheards, have engraven upon their great ſtaves and ſhepheards crooks all the principall matters ſet downe in our ordinary almanacks in their ancient Gothicke letters: by which means they are able to underſtand the change and other times of the moone, biſſextile or leape yeare, the golden number, dominicall letters, and the like, concerning this ſubiect.

Italian language.

The Spaniſh.

French.

Gothe lovers of learning.

The ſubiects of all the dominion of Sweden, are divided into ſixe rankes or degrees, differing in eminency and dignity each one from the other: the Princes of the bloud, the Nobles, and

Sixe rankes or degrees of the Swediſh nation.

Gentrie, the ecclesiasticall estate, souldiers or martiall men, the merchants and husbandmen, or labourers of the ground.

Princes of the bloods

The Princes of the bloud are commonly the Kings sonnes or brothers. The Kings eldest son doth now, according to the custome, usually succeed, and the others are called Dukes, and livings answerable to their birth and greatnesse assigned them. The daughters have portions assigned them, yet not out of the Kings treasure, but of the subiects purses. And although the Kingdome be now become hereditary, yet doe the Kings alwayes sweare to maintaine religion according to the *Augustine* confession.

The Nobility Their titles were not hereditary.

The Nobilitie is divided into Earles, Barons, Knights, Squires, and ordinary Gentry. The Earles were of old called *Ieri*, and were by their Kings created, as likewise Dukes, called *Hertzogh* for their singular valor & worth; but none of those titles were hereditary or descended to posterity. And by reason those great men had often in rebellion opposed themselves against their naturall Kings, therefore for divers yeeres these titles were quite omitted, vntill such time as *Ericus* 14. in imitation of other Kings and Potentates introduced again these titles of Earles and Barons, and made them hereditary to posterity. As for Knights they ever were, as now they are also, made for their worth and proofe vpon the atchieving of some noble exploits, and descend not to posterity, unlesse they succeed in their

Whop made hereditary.

their predeceſſours vertues and valour. As for the other Genery, the chiefeſt of them are thoſe we commonly call Squires, and of old were called aſt-wapu. Out of theſe rankes of Nobility above mentioned are elected and choſen the ſupreme miniſters and officers of iudicature and other great employments of the Kingdome; and for this cauſe have great maintenance allowed them.

The clergie or perſons ecclesiaſticall

As for the clergie and ſtate eccleſiaſticall, it is compoſed of theſe perſons following: firſt is the Archbiſhop of Vpſalia, together with ſeuen other Biſhops; and beſides theſe, there are yet foure ſuperintendents, who although in name they differ from the former, yet in nature & function little or nothing; and this laſt is moſt commonly the higheſt title among the Proteſtant Churches beyond the ſeas, as well Lutherans or others. So theſe Biſhops and ſuperintendents were adioyned the Canons, Prebends, &c. and under them Miniſters and Preachers of euery Pariſh. The Biſhops in former times were poſſeſſors of many ſtrong holds and Caſtles, and great livings, and were exceeding rich, by reaſon whereof they were able to live like great Princes (as at this day in Germany and other places is to be ſeen) by this means they became ſo haughty, and inſolent, that ſometimes they waged war with their owne natural Princes, ſometimes expelling them out of their kingdome. For this cauſe *Guſtauus* the 1. of that name, leſt the like

Biſhops lived like Princes in Sweden.

should befall himselfe or his successours, assembled the whole estates of his kingdome to take counsell against the Bishops then making preparation for an open rebellion; and by their advice and consent annexed unto the Crowne their lands and possessions, together with all their strong holds and Castles, reserving for these ecclesiasticall persons some part as well of the tythes as other revenues, to be for them a fit and competent maintenance. In former times these Bishops had place among the chiefe Senatours and counsellours of the kingdome, and the Archbishop of Vpsalia, and sometimes also the Bishop of Lincopia assumed unto themselves the title of Primate of the whole Kingdome; for the which cause in those dayes this dignity was by great Nobles sued for: but since this Kingdome made profession of the reformed Religion, the clergie of highest title meddle only with Church-affaires; and now mens sonnes of the meanest degree and birth, merchants or husbandmens are admitted unto such functions. And yet this priviledge they still enioy, that in every parliament they have a voice as well as any of the Nobility or others.

The military forces.

Next follow the military forces as well horse as foot, which notwithstanding consist not of forreine mercenary forces: For the foot forces are culled and pickt out from among the choicest youth of the kingdome, by decimation, or taking every tenth man. After they are once enrolled,

The trained bands, whereof consist the foot forces.

rolled, they are not onely freed from all subsidies, impositions, or other payments whatsoever, but have also a yeerely stipend allowed them of the king, who causeth certaine commanders for this same purpose appointed (being first furnished with all manner of weapons) for certaine yeares to traine them vp at home, in the meane time enuring them to endure all manner of hardship, and such toyle and labour as sould'eours are wonted in war to endure; while in the mean time the old bands (if need so require) be employed in forreine expeditions. And thus it commeth to passe, that although the King carry never so great an army out of the countrey against a forreine enemy, yet is the kingdome never left unfurnished of sufficient defence, ready to serve upon all occasions, and by this meanes there is the lesse use of mercenary souldiers, unlesse upon urgent and extraordinary occasion, as now in this great and memorable expedition against the *Austrian* house, and the whole Catholike league. It need not therefore seeme strange, that this great King hath even in our memories waged war alone and the same time against all his three potent neighbours, the king of Poland, of Denmarke, and the great Prince or Duke of Russia. For whensoever his forces are either wearied or worne out, he is able presently to exchange with a new supply, who being already inured to hardship and military labor and toile, are able to undergoe any difficulty whatsoever.

The horse-forces, and how raised.

Their horse-forces are raised both from among the Gentrie and the common people. The Nobles according to the greatnesse of their Lordships and lands maintaine many horsemen for the defence of the countrey: and besides these, the commons of every Province possessing rich Manors or Farmes, to free themselves from all tributes and taxes maintaine according to their meanes, certaine horsemen under the command of the Captaine of that place where hee liveth.

Merchants.

The fifth degree, ranke or order is of merchants inhabiting cities and townes. These both bring in, and carry out of the kingdome divers merchandizable commodities, bought first of the naturall inhabitants, from whence they gather no small gaine. Now these cities and merchant-staples have among them certaine peculiar municipal lawes and constitutions, derived from the law of the most ancient city Biria, the which about 600. yeeres ago was the seat Royal where the King kept his Court, and the chiefe staple of of the whole kingdome. Each of these cities and townes enioyeth also certaine particular priviledges, and very laudable constitutions, by which it was ordained and determined after what manner the mediterranean cities should trafficke and trade with the inhabitants and maritime, to the end that each place might bee an indifferent sharer in the gaine: and besides, this laudable constitution was also enacted, that

Certain lawes and constitutions have been appointed for traffick and commerce.

the

the benefit, gaine, or rising of one City should not prove the ruine of another. But these laudable lawes and wholesome constitutions by reason of so many wars and broyles wherewith this kingdome hath so often beene troubled, have beene by the governours of this kingdome now for a long time neglected; and by this meanes many disorders are by little and little crept into their trafficke and commerce. And therefore this illustrious and victorious king *Gustavus Adolphus* now reigning, to testifie and make knowne his love and fatherly affection to his countrey, in restoring and repairing the ruines and breaches of the common-wealth, among many other things, did againe as it were, revive, and put life into those now almost dead lawes, and enlarge the same; the which if afterwards they shall be duely observed, no doubt but these cities will soone againe returne to their former splendor and dignitie.

The last ranke and degree among this people, is that of husbandman, the which although lowest in degree, yet not of least vse and necessitie, as being the very ground and foundation of all the rest, and who furnish all the others, both with food and rayment. And of these there are yet two sorts: the first are free-holders, having their lands and possessions hereditary, and out of the which they use to pay something yeerely to the king, the which payment is seldome raysed to any higher rate; and withall, this privi-

Husbandmen.

Free-holders.

ledge

ledge hath beene granted them of old, that if they be able to furniſh themſelves with a good horſe and compleat armour, being able to ſerve the king in his warres, ſo long as they, or yet any of their ſonnes ſerve in this kind, their Manours or Farmes are freed from any manner of payments to the king; and this is the reaſon why many from their very cradle, as it were, apply themſelves to military affaires; by which means alſo the number of the kings horſemen is wonderfully encreaſed. Among theſe are alſo to be ranked ſuch as worke in mynes in the mountainous and hilly places of the kingdome, who thereby purchaſe to themſelves no ſmall gaine, and are for the moſt part very rich. The reſt of theſe countrey people are Farmers, who, although beſides the ſet rents they pay their landlords, they performe likewiſe diuers ſervices; yet by reaſon of the great benefit and commodity they make by fiſhing, fowling, and of wood of the forreſts, they reape no ſmall commodity, whereby they are enabled ro liue in very good faſhion according to their owne ranke and degree. For this is to be underſtood, that this whole kingdome aboundeth with lakes and riuers, full of very wholeſome fiſhes; beſides the abundance of woods, which partly in regard of their number, and partly by reaſon of the remoteneſſe, yeeld oftentimes but ſmall benefit to the owners: and for the ſame reaſon no where are fiſh and fowle, as alſo hares cheaper then

Workers in the Mynes.

Farmers.

in

in this kingdome. It is likewiſe to be obſerved, that in all Parliamentes, the countrey people, this laſt and ſixt ranke I meane, have a voyce as well as any of the others. And thus it commeth to paſſe, that the meaneſt or loweſt degree is not neglected, nor no well deſerving ſubiect hindered to climbe to as high a pitch of honour, as his vertues can attaine unto.

They have a voice in Parliament.

CHAP. IIII.

Of the Politicke and civill government of the Kingdome of Sweden.

IN ancient times each Province of this kingdome had it's ſeverall lawes and conſtitutions, whereof, as it is ſuppoſed, there were divers authours, whoſe names, by reaſon of the long tract of time, are now for the moſt part buried in oblivion.

And the Veſtrogothian lawes are ſo ancient, that it is apparant they were made at ſuch times as the Goths departed out of this kingdome, or at leaſt ſhortly after: for there is mention made of the Goths inhabiting Greece and Thracia: to wit, that none of them ſhould enioy or poſſeſſe any of their ancient poſſeſſions in their owne countrey, unleſſe they would returne and dwell

Antiquities of the Veſtrogothian lawes

there. And it is apparent that they dwelt there before the times of *Alexander* the great, who, as he affirmed, were to be ſhunned and taken heede of. Beſides, even before the incarnation of our Lord and Saviour, they were ſuch a terror to the Romans, that they were by them much hindered from inlarging their dominion beyond the Danubius. Now theſe lawes doe for the moſt part agree with the lawes of the Viſigoths, ſet down by *Iſidorus*, although they be farre ſhorter; for the which cauſe it is not unlike that theſe ſame lawes of *Iſidrus* were at the firſt collected out of the conſtitutions of the Veſtrogoths, and after, as the titles teſtifie enlarged by the kings of the Viſigoths of Spaine. Out of all theſe Provincial lawes and other conſtitutions of this kingdome, did the Biſhops and Senatours thereof above 270 yeares agoe compile this generall law, very agreeable to the law of nature, and not much differing from the civill law, but that by this controverted caſes are far ſpeedilier ended. But before we ſpeake any thing concerning their lawes, we will premit ſome generalities. In this kingdome therefore there are ſeverall principall colledges or ſocieties, which comprehend the whole government of the ſame.

The whole government of this kingdome comprehended in certaine ſocieties or colledges.

The firſt of theſe is called the Colledge of Iuſtice, in the which are three degrees or rankes: the ſupreame, the middle moſt, and loweſt of all. In this ſupreame or higheſt ranke or order, are the noble Senators of the kingdome: in the

1 Colledge or ſocietie of Iuſtice.

next are ſuch as they call Lagman; and in Latin Nomophylaces, as if we ſhould ſay; Recorders or Regiſters. In the third ranke or order are the Iudges of particular cities or townes, being men of good eſteeme, and of honeſt life and converſation, and not unskilfull in the lawes of the land. In this ſupreame court are iudged cauſes of the whole kingdome, as well criminall as ciuill; and to this ſupreame court, the ſubiect may from any inferiour Court of the kingdome appeale, whereas they determine and iudge whether the inferiour court hath iudged right or no; and from this court there is no appeale, unleſſe it be to the king himſelfe, in whoſe power it is either to qualifie the puniſhment, or to remit the offence. Vnder this ſuprame court are immediatly ſubiected and ſubordinate two others, that of criminall cauſes, and that of the court or chamber.

The next to this colledge is the colledge of war, wherein are handled all Martiall or Military affaires, and is called the Court marſhall or martiall. To this court belongs the Councell of War, wherein are all military matters deliberated and diſcuſſed: and over this court preſides the great Marſhall of the kingdome. His office is, when the king cannot be preſent in his owne perſon, as generall to command over the whole army.

a Colledge or ſocietie is that of warre, or court Marſhall.

This great officer hath with him ioyned diuers other aſſociates and collegues, amongſt

whom is chiefly he whom they call *Rick-ſeirs Siigmeiſter*, as much to ſay, as maſter of the Ordnance. Beſides, there is alſo a field marſhall, and under him many other commanders, both of the horſe and foot forces.

3 Colledge, the court of the Chancery

The third colledge or court is that of the Chancerie; in which are handled all manner of cauſes both civill and eccleſiaſticall. In this Court preſides the Lord Chancellour of the kingdome, who hath the chiefe charge of the broad ſeale, receiveth and readeth all letters ſent to the king, and diſpatcheth anſwers. Beſides, in the counſell he propoundeth ſuch heads as they are to conſult about: and withall he hath the charge of ſetting downe and publiſhing all Proclamations; all decrees and acts of Parliament. Hee is alſo Iudge of al private complaints and appeales from inferiour courts to the King: and finally, he hath the overſight of all the Secretaries, Clerkes, Religious perſons, and eccleſiaſticall ceremonies; and all controverſies and negotiations with forreine Princes, war, peace, and truce receiving meſſages from forreine Ambaſſadors, and diſpatching their anſwers. This great officer hath ioyned with him for aſſociates or collegues, a Vice-chancellour: and divers counſellers of the Chancerie, beſides the kings Secretaries, with divers others.

The Lord Chancellours office.

4 Colledge, the Admirall court.

The fourth Colledge or Court is that of the Admiraltie, over which is the great Lord Admirall; whoſe office is to overſeethe Navy royall,

all, and to ſee that it be in a readineſſe, with all things thereto belonging, againſt the time of need. He hath under him a Vice-admirall, beſides Captaines and Commanders of every ſhip. To his court belong all cauſes concerning treſpaſſes againſt conſtitutions made for the preſervation of the Navy-royal, and many other things concerning maritime affaires.

The fifth and laſt is the Exchequer, or, as the French call it, the chamber of accounts, where are received all the revenues belonging to the crowne, tributes, cuſtomes, ſubſidies, &c. Over this Court preſides the Lord Treaſurer of the kingdome, who hath alſo ioyned with him in commiſſion two others of the Nobility; and to this court belong alſo a number of clerks, who are choſen out of the inferiour ranke of people. He hath alſo under his cuſtodie the royall enſignes of the kingdome, the apple, the crowne, the ſcepter, and the ſword. He payes alſo all the kings armie, and ſo doth hee all the kings ſervants their wages, In a word hee takes all, and payes all, being accomptable to no body, but to the king himſelfe.

5 Colledge in the Exchequer.

Amongſt all the great officers of the kingdome, the Lord Marſhall is accounted the chiefe, being maſter of the kings houſhold, and adminiſtrator or orderer of the great counſell; who by the kings authority, hath power to aſſemble the whole States of the land; to command ſilence and attention, to give leave to ſpeake in Parliament,

The Lord Marſhal, office.

ment, to welcome ofrreine Embaſſadours, and to provide things neceſſary for their entertainment. To his office alſo it belongeth to remove out of the counſell ſuch as belong not thereunto, and to ſee the kings decrees, concerning matters of defamation, and puniſhment of death duly put in execution. Hee ſupplyes alſo the place of the maſter of the ceremonies, and ſuppreſſeth all tumults and diſorders. To him belongeth alſo the overſight of the kings houſhold and domeſticall ſervants, and to correct the offenders. And finally, in all publike meetings he beares the great ſtaffe before the king.

Next unto him in dignitie is eſteemed the great Lord Conſtable, the field Marſhall, the great Sewer, the Lord Chamberlaine, &c.

Particular diviſion of the Provinces into ſmaller parts.

Moreover, this whole kingdome is not onely divided into ſeverall Provinces, Duchies, and Counties, but beſides each Province is againe ſubdivided into certaine territories or iuriſdictions, commonly called Haradh, of the which, ſome containe moe, and ſome fewer pariſhes. Each Province againe hath its governor or lieutenant called Landz-herren, or State-haller; and each territorie or iuriſdiction hath a Iudge called Leenſman; and beſides, each pariſh hath a Iudge called Nembdarius, or Nembdemannus. Now all theſe are diſtinct offices, and ſubordinate one to another, and ſo may the plantife appeale from one inferiour court, to a next ſuperiour in due order and forme.

Severall Iudges.

The

The ſupreame governour or magiſtrate of the Province is called Legiſer, as it were a law-giver and iudge, and are eſteemed in dignity next unto the king, as being his iudges and vice-gerents. Now as many as are the Provinces, as many are there of theſe ſupreame iudges: to eleven, under whom are againe above 300. Vicounties, or particular iuriſdictions; not unlike the courts of Parliament of France, and the multitude of preſidiall courts. But the difference is, that theſe ſupreame Iudges viſit every yeare a great part of their Province, untill all their Prouinces be viſited, and when they have travelled the round, they returne againe where they firſt began (which the French Parliaments doe not) much after the manner of the Iudges circuits in this kingdome. And as this courſe is very conuenient for the remedying of the publike diſeaſes of the kingdome; ſo is it alſo ſome eaſe to the ſubiect, theſe iudges demanding the tribute and taxes by turnes, and not all at once, of ſuch territories and pariſhes as they viſit, that ſo the people be not all burdened at one and the ſame time.

The ſupreame Iudge *Legiſer*

It is yet further to be obſerved, that by the ancient cuſtomes and conſtitutions of this kingdome, beſides all theſe aforementioned courts, there was yet one generall court commanded to be kept in foure eminent places of the kingdome once or twice a yeere, for determining and finiſhing ſome caſes, which by the other

Iudges

Iudges had not beene, or could not ſo well be de-
Iudicium pretoriale. cided. And this they call *Iudicium Prætoriale*, which was a meeting of many Iudges together, where controverſies were duely and ſtrictly examined, and ſentence according to equity pronounced. This court was by *Charles* the ninth, father to this now reigning king *Guſtavus Adolphus* ordeined to be kept twice a yeere, once in Vpſalia, in winter at the time of a great faire then kept; and the other about Saint *Peters* day in ſummer. The Iudges were without faile to appeare at the place appointed in proper perſon ſixe weekes after the publication of ſuch a meeting. Now whatſoever was in this pretoriall court determined betwixt party and party, was to ſtand firme and inviolable for ever without appeale to any other court whatſoever.

The Ral or Court Royal. And becauſe the king will be ſure, that iuſtice be duely executed in all his dominions, therefore beſides all theſe former courts, there is yet another great and ſolemne court ſometimes kept, called the court Royall or Ral; whereas either the king in proper perſon, or elſe a deputy or ſpeciall commiſſioner heares all the grievances betwixt party and party: and this is a court of reformation, wherin ſome things which in other courts have not beene ſo well ordered, are here reformed and amended. And this court I take to be much like that ſolemne court ſometimes kept in the kingdome of Scotland, called the Iuſtice aire, wherein very ſmall offences

Iuſtice heire of Scotland.

were

were ſeverely puniſhed. Now the king is ſixe weekes before the time of ſitting to intimate the ſame to his ſubiects. And within 14 dayes after, whoſoever hath a complaint againſt any, he muſt cauſe ſummon his adverſary to appeare at the day and place appointed by the kings letters, to that purpoſe to bee read in the firſt *Placit* or Court; or where there is none kept, then at the next Pariſh Church. Now if any upon this ſummons ſhall refuſe to appeare, the king or his vicegerent, ſhall notwithſtanding his non-appearance, (unleſſe very iuſt cauſe may bee ſhewed) proceed to ſentence againſt him.

Now as concerning their particular lawes, ſtatutes, and ordinances, the times and turnes of their meetings in Courrts of Iuſtice, the manner of chooſing their Iudges, their oaths, and what by them to be obſerved, as being too long and tedious for this ſhort tractate, I willingly paſſe by. But if any be deſirous to know their particular ſtatute lawes, he may have recourſe to their hiſtory, and ſuch as have of ſet purpoſe collected and ſet them downe in order. I proceed now to ſpeake of the might and power of this great king, and then by what meanes it is maintained.

CHAP. V.

Of the might and power of the King of Sweden, *as well by Sea as by land.*

Sea forces.

Number of Ships.

AND first for his sea forces, it is certaine that the king of Sweden (besides his gallies and small ships, whereof in those seas he possesseth no small number) hath beene many yeeres agoe furnished with fifty brave war-ships, upon all occasions ready for service; and many of them furnished with 60. 70. or 80. great peeces of brasse Ordnance; and now questionlesse hee is furnished with a farre greater number. Neither yet is it any hard matter for him to make vp the

Number of Mariners and Sailers.

number of 6000 saile within his dominions, not of rowers and ordinary watermen I meane, but even of expert sailers, pilots, masters of ships, masters mates, &c. For all that tract about the sea coast of Finland, being at least 40. miles in length, together with the coast of the Redeucke sea twice as long, besides a number of Ilands afford the inhabitants daily meanes of no small commerce and traffiking by sea; by which means the marriners may easily become both bold and expert. Besides, their maintenance is not very charge-

chargeable to the king: for the moſt of their pay is in fiſh, fleſh, butter and cheeſe, ryce and barly, ſuch commodities as many of his countries yeeld him for tribute. Theſe ſhips in time of peace uſe to be diſtributed into divers parts of the kingdom. The greateſt cõmonly ly in Stockholme haven, which Port is ſo fenced againſt all winds, that there they may ſafely ride againſt all winds without any anchors: beſides, that there they are alſo free from any hoſtile invaſion, there being no acceſſe thither for any ſhips but by 24. miles ſailing, and that by a number of dangerous rockes. The reſt of thoſe ſhips are diſperſed into divers other harbours, eſpecially thoſe of Finland, that ſo they may be alwayes in a readineſſe, if peradventure the Ruſſian ſhould make any ſudden ſtirre. Some of them againe are beſtowed in ſuch ports and haven townes whereas they may inhibite the importation of ſuch commodities out of high Germany, as might tend to the ruine of the kingdome: and therefore the kings maieſty ſuffereth no ſhip to come from thence, unleſſe they have firſt a paſſe granted them, ſubſcribed with his maieſties owne hand; the which the Merchants of Lubeck often purchaſe at a round rate. And to conclude, this king is very powerfull by ſea.

And no leſſe powerfull is he alſo by land: for he is able in a ſhort ſpace from among his owne ſubiects to raiſe a great armie of foot, who by reaſon of their frequent conflicts ſometimes

His land forces.

with the Dane, ſometimes with the Ruſſian, but eſpecially with the Polonian, have purchaſed unto themſelves no ſmall experience in military affaire, having infinitely improved the valour and proweſſe derived unto them by their anceſtours.

This king may in a fortnights ſpace call out twelve legions of well experienced ſouldiers, (reckoning three thouſand to a legion) and may carry them whither he liſt out of the kingdome, yea if it were even to the very Indians, neither yet is he unfurniſhed of choice, able, and skilfull horſemen as well in Sweden as in Finland, both theſe countries being well furniſhed with exceeding good horſes; the which how farre in bulke of body inferiour to thoſe of high Germany, and other nations, ſo farre perhaps doe they againe ſurpaſſe them in bountie. And in truth they are very ſtout, and in conſideration of their low ſtature, exceeding ſtrong, being accuſtomed to hard labour, and eaſily undergoing any travell or toile, and withall contented with any food.

The horſes not bigge in bulke.

The lowneſſe of their ſtature hath beene the ſole cauſe that heretofore this king hath moſt commonly hyred his horſemen out of high Germany, when he was to wage warre againſt any potent enemy. Now how great forces both of horſe, & foot, this mighty Prince is able to bring into the field, may not onely by his late war againſt the Polonian, but by this late and laſt expedition

This king hireth commonly his horſemen.

pedition into Germany, undertaken for the freeing of many distressed Princes and people from the tyranny of the *Austrian* house, and restoring them againe to their ancient inheritances, easily be evidenced and witnessed unto us. After-ages no doubt will stand amazed at the multitude of his valiant acts, with so great celerity, valour, and magnanimitie atchieved in so short a time, who may well with that great conquerour *Iulius Cesar*, say, *veni, vidi, vici*; and gratefull posteritie will eternize his name so long as sunne and moone shall endure, and blesse the time that so pious and prosperous a Prince was borne to the Christian world. Many things were some yeeres agoe related to the Pope by his *Nuncio* concerning the multitude and distribution of the military forces of this kingdome; concerning their pay also, military discipline, &c. all which, although since that time much improoued, yet for the present I let passe, and proceed to other matters.

CHAP. VI.

Of cuſtomes and tribute belonging to the king of Sweden.

Cuſtomes threefold.

Cuſtomes ariſing from his mynes.

NOw to maintaine all this great charge of warre and other expences, there muſt bee ſome meanes whereby it may bee effected. For this purpoſe therfore there are certaine tributes and cuſtomes yeerely paid into the kings coffers: and theſe are of three ſorts. The firſt ſort of tribute is that which is raiſed of his mines; out of the which not onely are digged iron, copper and lead in great abundance, but even ſilver alſo, of the which are coined the Swediſh dollors, for fineneſſe of mettall inferior to no other ſilver whatſoever. Now ſome of theſe Mynes are digged at the kings owne coſt and charges, and ſome at the coſt of private perſons.

Of the firſt the king hath the whole benefit, and of the latter but the tenth part, as of other commodities.

Of two copper Mines onely, at this time the king receives a very great benefit; and beſides, by reaſon of this abundance of braſſe and copper, it commeth to paſſe that hee is ſo well able to furniſh himſelfe with braſſe Ordnance; and that

that not for his Caſtles and Forts onely, but for his Ships alſo: the ſum whereof is no leſſe then 8000. at the leaſt: and in the Caſtle of Stockeholme alone, there are at leaſt 400. great pieces of braſſe Ordnance, and more might yet be made if there were any need. And if the country people did not oftentimes conceal ſome mines newly found out, the profit which would ariſe out of theſe mynes would amount to a farre greater ſumme.

Great number of braſſe Ordnance.

Cuſtomes & revenues ariſing from the fruits of the earth,

The next way by which the kings revennes are increaſed, is from the fruits of the earth, and his cuſtomes as well by ſea as by land: for the king hath the tythes of all manner of graine, wheate, rye, barly, &c. as alſo of butter & cheeſe of beaſts, hides, fiſh, and the like; the certainty of which reuenues although it be not to us aſſuredly knowne; yet no queſtion ariſeth it to no ſmall ſumme, and as is credible, to little leſſe then 9. or 10. millions ſay their writers: but this muſt be underſtood of their owne coine and account, not of Sterline money.

Cuſtomes of all manner of merchandiſe.

Now concerning his cuſtomes, the king receiveth cuſtome of all wares tranſported out of the kingdome, or imported into the ſame. And that there be no want of good ſilver coyne within the kingdome, this order hath beene for many yeares agoe eſtabliſhed, to wit, that for every hundreth dollors worth of merchandize tranſported out of the kingdome, they ſhall pay into the cuſtome-houſe tenne ſilver dollors in kind, or

elſe

elſe tenne ounces of ſilver; for the which they receiue in preſent pay the worth in other ſmall copper coine of Swediſh money currant within the kingdome.

And for every hundreth dollors worth of wares ſo tranſported out of the kingdome, the merchant is tyed to bring into the kingdome againe the worth of 90. dollors of ſuch wares as are uſefull for the kingdome; and for theſe 90. dollors worth of wares, they are to pay into the cuſtome-houſe tenne dollors, or ten ounces of ſilver, or elſe the worth thereof in other money. And whoſoever ſhall faile in any of the premiſſes, for the firſt fault hee ſhall pay 20 Swediſh markes; and the next time all his wares ſhall be confiſcate.

Cuſtomes of furres and rich skins.

As for the revenue and cuſtome of rich skins and furs, it is ſometimes more, and ſometimes leſſe, according to the intenſeneſſe and remiſſneſſe of the cold, and the abundance of ſnow. For the greater is the ſnow, the greater number of theſe wild beaſts are taken. Out of the country of Lapland the Northermoſt of all his Provinces the king receives a great number of theſe skins or rich furs. And to the end he be not couzned, he ſendeth thither euery yeare an officer, being a clerke, who ſo narrowly inquireth into the number of theſe beaſts ſo killed, that very hardly can he be deceiued.

Theſe rich furs the king diſpoſeth of among his kindred and friends: and ſometimes alſo he

hee exchangeth them with merchants, for other wares wherewith they furniſh his Court.

The third ſort of revenue conſiſteth in voluntary or arbitrary contributions, anſwerable to our ſubſidies and fifteenes in this kingdome. For whenſoever the king is to undertake a warre offenſive or defenſive, he calls a Parliament, wherein he acquainteth the ſubiect with his purpoſe, and what charges it is like to ariſe vnto: and then the States of the kingdome agree vpon a certaine ſumme anſwerable to the buſines to be undertaken. The third ſort of cuſtome or revenue, arbitrary or voluntary contributions.

But the Nobles and chiefe Gentrie, and their tenants are for the moſt part freed from theſe impoſitions, unleſſe upon very urgent and important occaſions. But if there be an extreame neceſſitie, and there be not otherwiſe ſufficient ſupply, then their vaſſals and tenants are tyed to pay halfe of the taxe or ſubſidie, as well as thoſe who are immediately ſubiect to the king himſelfe.

Beſides all this, the ſubiect is tyed to contribute to the marriage of the kings daughters, whoſe dowrie hath been hitherto 100000. dollors, neare upon 40000. pound ſterling money, beſides plate and other mooveables; unto the which nevertheleſſe the king may adde at his pleaſure as he ſeeth occaſion.

And whenſoever the king permits any of his Court deſerving ſubiects to any preferment, he commonly aſſignes him a certaine number of

eountry people who are esteemed as his vassalls and subiects, and are to doe him homage, and pay him tribute and certaine duties.

CHAP. VII.

Of the Kings of this countrey of Sweden, with some of their chiefe and memorable Acts.

MOst of the Northerne nations have time out of mind had their Kings by election: as the Dane, Swedish, Polonian and Bohemian. The kings of Sweden have beene untill of late yeeres elective. And although it was a matter of no small difficulty among barbarous nations, where *Mars* was more honoured then *Minerva*, and good literature (the meanes to eternize heroicall worth) scarce heard of in these remote regions, to finde out any thing concerning their kings worth the writing; yet have we the names of divers kings of that nation recorded of old; howbeit a constant and continued succession without any interruption wee cannot reade of.

1 In the first place then they tell us that *Magog* sonne to *Iaphet*, *Noahs* son, the founder of the Scythian nation in Europe, having passed over the Venedicke gulfe into Gothland (by the Latines afterward called by the name of Scythia) reigned over those people called Gete. Others, and that of the more learned ascribe rather the originall of the Goths to *Gomer Iaphets* eldest sonne, and make those two nations Goths and Gete, different and distinct nations. 1 King *Magog*

2 *Vnto Mageg*, as they write, succeeded *Swennus*, from whom the nation tooke the name. 2 *Swennus.*

3 *Gethar.*

4 *Vbbo*, who as they write, builded Vpsalia before *Abraham* was borne. And from that time untill our Lord and Saviour they reckon up 35. kings, and distinguish them all by their severall names; and many of those, for their sanctitie of life, and conspicuous and eminent vertues, were by the rude rimes of those dayes highly commended. And besides these, divers other kings are yet recorded to have reigned ouer those, who under the command of one *Berico*, for feare of intestine warre, fled their owne countrey, and among those mention is made of one king of the Getes in order. 3 *Gethar*, 4 *Vbbo.*

22 *Colison* by name, to whom *Augustus Cesar* betroathed his daughter *Iulia*; about the which time also *Antonius* demaunded his daughter in marriage, as may cleerely appeare

by *Suetonius* in the life of *Augustus*. Moreover, about the time of our Savior reigned *Ericus* the third, furnamed *Disertus*, who for his worth and merit attained to this government. To this *Ericus* succeded to the government of the Swedish nation,

40 *Ericus* d. e 3.

41 *Godrichus* his sonne; and next to him

41 *Godrichus* 42 *Haldanus*.

42 *Haldanus*; during the reigne of this king, lived that monster of strength, for the same cause called *Starcherus*, who is said at singular combats to have killed that great champion *Ham*, which afterwards gave denomination to that famous City Hamburg. After those is a long catalogue of their kings recorded, but nothing concerning their acts worth the reading recorded, that nation then standing more upon the point of valour and honour, then upon penning of them for posteritie.

But farre more fortunate have they beene in their forreine expeditions and transmigrations, when as like a great deluge and inundation they overflowed a great part of the world under the names of Ostrogoths, and Westrogoths, and under the commandement of *Theodericus*, *Attalariake*, *Totila*, *Atualphus*, &c. whose martial and heroicall exploits the Romans highly advancing, and lest they should conceale their owne worth, have published to all posteritie.

100 *Biorno*.

Vnder *Biorno* their 100 home-bred king, *Lewes* sonne to *Charles* the great, swaying the sceptre of the Westerne Empire this nation of Sweden

first

first received the Christian faith, *Sanctus Augerius* a monke of *Gorbey* much furthering then this so worthy a worke, *Author est Ludolphus de Bebenburg in libro de zelo religionis Christianæ.*

CHAP. VIII.

124 *Ericus Sanctus* 4.

124 *ERicus Sanctus* or the holy, after whom the posteritie of *Suercherus* and *Ericus* by turnes with much contention, as the one or the other grew strongest usurped the gouernment. This pious Prince, notwithstanding his great agnitie and pietie, and paines taken in an expedition to conuert the Finlanders to the faith, had but a slender reward, being bulled by a conspiracy of some of his Nobility, *Henry* King of Denmarke, and *Magnus* his sonne being the ring-leaders of this faction, *An.* 1160.

125 *Charles* 7.

125 *Charles* sonne to *Stercherus*, having raigned two yeeres during the raigne of *Ericus* over the Ostrogothis (who in the election of a king dissenting from the Swedish had chosen one of their owne) and afterwards for the space of 8. yeares, very religiously and vertuously ouer both kingdomes, but being now hated by reason of his friendship with the Dane, was at length by *Canutus* sonne to S. *Ericus*, (being by some perswaded that this *Charles* with the helpe of the

Dane had contriued his fathers death) killed in in the Iland of Viſnuga 1168.

126 Canutus. 126 *Canutus* ſonne to S. *Ericus*, having done penance for killing king *Charles*, and being by the diſcreet counſell of the Biſhop of Lunden, diverted from aſſailing the Dane, dyes 1192.

127 Stercherus 127 *Stercherus* ſonne to *Charles*; a martiall man, wiſe and eloquent, itching for revenge on the poſterity of *Canutus*, having altered his former nature, & gathered great forces out of Denmarke, was at length with his whole army utterly overthrowne, and againe in another bloudy battle himſelfe killed 1210.

128 Ericus 3. 128 *Ericus* ſonne to *Canutus* having eſcaped *Stercherus* his hands, raigned very proſperouſly for the ſpace of 7. yeares, the which 7 yeares hiſtories mention to have been exceeding fruitfull; but in the eight, yere with the death of their king, this fruitfulnes was alſo finiſhed 1216.

129 Iohn 1. 129 *Iohn* ſonne to *Stercherus*, a very pious young man, of exceeding great hopes, dyed notwithſtanding within three yeares after 1222.

130 Ericus Balbus. 130 *Ericus Balbus* ſonne to the nephew of S. *Ericus*. Againſt him conſpires his kinſman *Folchingus*, expelling him out of his kingdome, but within a ſhort ſpace the tyde turning, he being killed, he left *Ericus* the peaceable poſſeſſion of the kingdome; after this he converts his forces againſt the Tavaſtians, ſending againſt them the Prince of the Oſtrogoths, a man of very eminent vertues; whom after hee had ſubdued and converted, he dyes 1150.

Val-

131 *Valdemarus*, by meanes of a valiant ſouldier *Ioannus Blaa*, during his fathers abſence, was elected king. The father being returned from this expedition againſt the Tavaſtians, alledged, that the crowne was rather due to himſelfe then to his ſonne: but beeing terrified by the ſtout anſwer of this brave ſouldier (who affirmed that he could ſhake a king of Sweden out of his ierkin, if as *Birgerus* alledged, there ſhould want one to ſucceed) he was contented to be his ſonnes governour, wherein he diſcharged himſelfe very worthily.

But by the fathers death, this young king being now left to himſelfe, by the perſwaſion of his wife being a Dane, hee deales very harſhly with his owne brothers, untill at length he was taken priſoner by his brother *Magnus*, being therein borne out by the Swediſh themſelves, and was alſo ſhortly after by the Peeres of the kingdome deprived of the kingdome of Gothland, which his brothers kindneſſe had hitherto ſuffered him to enioy. 131 *Valdemarus*.

132 *Magnus Ladolos* in the yeare 1276. ſucceeded his brother *Valdemarus*, by the Danes meanes: notwithſtanding not ceaſing ſtill to moleſt him, yet after a once or twice diſſembled reconciliation, at length by the captivitie of *Valdemarus* the controverſie was compoſed. Hee much wronged himſelfe in ſetting ſtrangers, the Danes eſpecially, over the affaires of the kingdome: for at a friendly feaſt (as he ſuppoſed) 132 *Magnus Ladolos* 1.

the

the Danes, not regarding ſacred hoſpitality, tooke him priſoner.

And beſides, he drew upon himſelfe the implacable hatred of the whole Swediſh nation, but principally of the family of *Folchingus*, againſt whom he bare a great grudge: and therefore having cunningly under the color of friendſhip invited them to a feaſt, he murdered thoſe of chiefe note, and almoſt extinguiſhed the whole race of *Folchingus*. But towards the latter end of his life, he much reformed his former carriage, giving himſelfe wholly to Gods worſhip and ſervice, dyed in the Ile of Viſingia, having left his ſonne to ſucceed him, and *Turgillus Canuti* to be his governour and guide.

133 *Birgerus*.

133 *Birgerus* ſonne to *Magnus*, a diſhonour both to himſelfe, and the whole Swediſh nation, the ruine and overthrow of his owne brethren (a prodigious and unnaturall part) the beginning of his raigne having promiſed better proceedings, after the reiecting of *Turgillus*, his cruell nature began to diſcover it ſelfe. For having at firſt accuſed his brethren of treaſon, hee afterwards by force of armes aſſaulted them, by whom being firſt taken priſoner, after a counterfeit reconciliation, having invited them to a feaſt, he layes violent hands on them, thruſts them into a dungeon there to dye of famine, and leſt there ſhould be any hope of ſuccour, throwes the key into a deepe river running hard by. The which barbarous and inhumane cruelties, being odious

odious both to the Swediſh and Gothiſh nation, they tooke armes and expelled him out of the kingdome, who together with his wife, died miſerably in Denmarke.

134 *Magnus Smech*, ſonne to *Ericus* ſlaine by his brother *Birgerus*, in the yeere 1319. ſucceeded in the government, who no whit terrified by his Vncles example, trod ſtill in the ſame footſteps; in ſo much that for his contempt of religion, prodigious luſt and barbarous cruelty, he was called a robber or ſpoyler (*Predo*) which was the elogie he purchaſed to himſelfe, making a ſhew that he would admit of his ſonne *Ericus* for a conſort in his government, ſecretly ſuborneſ one to kill him; which being prevented, yet his owne mother *Blanca* a French woman poyſons him. 134. Magnus Smech.

Being taken priſoner by *Haquinus* the ſecond king of Norway, but preſently againe let goe, he flyes into Denmarke, and cauſing intercept his ſonnes ſpouſe Dutches of Holſtein, by force obtrudes upon him *Margaret* the Danes daughter: and in the meane time while he is a providing great forces againſt his ſubiects, hee thunders out proſcription againſt them.

135 But in the meane time *Albert* of Meckelburg, nephew to *Magnus* by his ſiſter, is by the proſcribed Nobles elected king, and ſhortly after at Stockeholme confirmed. Being now ſetled in the throne royall he proffers agreement to *Magnus*, who refuſing the ſame, and being all 135. Albert of Mecklo-burge.

for warre, was at length taken priſoner, and ſo kept cloſe for the ſpace of whole ſeven yeeres, untill he was by his ſonne *Haguinus* releaſed. After this, being returned from a Parliament held at Wiſmare, he began to contemne & deſpiſe his ſubiects, of whom, in requitall, he was as little regarded, whom now they could not endure. He was ſhortly after intangled in warre againſt Queene *Margaret*, to whoſe ſide ſome did encline, wherein he was taken priſoner, and deteined captive whole ſeven yeares, and at length forced to releaſe his ſubiects of their oath of fidelitie.

136 *Margaret* the Dane.

236 *Margaret* the Dane, and wife to *Haguin* king of Norway, was now in the yeare 1395 Queene of three kingdomes: a woman indeede of a high and magnanimous ſpirit, if ſhee had bent her will the right way, & vertuous deſigne had beene the utmoſt end ſhe aymed at. But ſhe, making no more account of any oath ſhee had ſworne (whereunto notwithſtanding ſhee was very forward) then of childrens ſport, with inſatiable covetouſneſſe ſpoyling all, and delivering up the Caſtles and ſtrong holds of the kingdome into the hands of ſtrangers, being extreamly hated of the Swediſh, fled into Denmarke, after ſhe had by terrors and threatnings obtained the kingdome for one *Ericus*, her own ſiſters ſonne, a young man about twenty foure yeares of age. When ſhe was admoniſhed that ſhee ſhould not commit the cuſtody of the forts and

ca-

caſtles of the kingdome into ſtrangers hands, it was her anſwer, keepe you well your evidences, and I will have a care to keepe your caſtles. She dyed and was buried at Flensburg, *An.* 1412.

137 *Ericus* Duke of Pomerania did too much reliſh of the perfidious practiſes of his aunt, keeping no covenant, vexing the Nobility with with warre, ſpoyling and impoveriſhing his ſubiects at home, and marring all commerce abroad, was therefore oppoſed by *Engelbertus* of a Noble and Princely family; and he by Daniſh treachery being ſupplanted, *Carolus Canuti* took upon him the government of the Realme. Having fled into Denmarke, and at length odious alſo to the Dane, ſometimes attempting, and ſometimes againe deſpairing of his returne in his kingdome (which notwithſtanding upon keeping of covenant was ſtill ready to receive him) at length in his returne hee tooke in Gothland, whereby he might the more eaſily robbe all the ſhips ſailing towards the North. But beeing at length by *Carolus Canuti* beſieged, and now not daring truſt the Danes, hee fled into his owne countrey of Pomerania, and there ſpent the reſt of his dayes in peace and quietneſſe, *Anno* 1437.

137 *Ericus* Duke of Pomerania 7.

138 *Chriſtopherus*, Prince Palatine of Rhene, and Duke of Bavaria, and fifters ſonne to *Ericus*, againſt whom by the Danes meanes he was inticed to come; and yet not without great doubting and deliberation, and the Danes great com-

138 *Chriſtopherus* Prince Palatine of Rhene and Duke of Bavaria,

mendation would the Peeres give their aſſent to his election.

The faire ſunne-ſhine of the beginning of this Princes reigne were eſtſoone by the Swediſh ſupplanting one another overclo uded. Hee had once a conflict with the Engliſh, wherein he had the better; and afterwards labouring to take in Lubecke, and being diſappointed of his purpoſe, he ſuffered ſhipwracke on the Swediſh ſhore, after which hee loſt all hope of taking in theſe townes of the Vandals. For his luſt and other wickedneſſe the land was puniſhed with peſtilence and famine: and afterwards having by ſea loſt his great treaſures he had with him carryed out of the country, at length in Denmarke hee dyed childleſſe 1448.

139. Carolus Canuti.

139 *Carolus Canuti*, after this nation had been ſome yeeres without a king, was by the Peeres of the land now loathing a forreine yoake, crowned king 1458. After he was come to the crowne, he ſubdued Norway; and being afterwards invaded and aſſaulted by the Dane, hee damnifies him exceedingly. By reaſon of the inſolency and miſdemeanour of his governours and officers, and by the inſtigation of the Archbiſhop of Vpſalia, eſpecially, the people of the land rebelled, and roſe up in armes againſt him; and in the meane time that he went to Dantzick for ſuccour from the king of Poland, they bring in and crowne *Chriſtiernus* king of Denmarke. But in the meane time *Catillus* Biſhop of Linco-

pia,

pia, and nephew to the Archbiſhop, of a Prelate now becomes a man of warre, and gathering together what forces he was able, expells out of the kingdome both *Chriſtierne* (who kept no covenant, nor yet performed any promiſe) and all his favourers and adherents: and at length in a memorable battle fought upon the ice, overthrowes *Chriſtierne*, and puts his whole army to rout. After this the Biſhop calls the king home out of Pruſſia, who being now returned, and having againe recovered the peoples love and good will, and growne now wiſer to his coſt, he places over them ſuch officers as might give them better content. At length graced and adorned with as many worthy vertues as dayes and yeares in reigning, dyes in 1470.

After this *Charles* ſome reckon *Chriſtierne* for 140. *Iohn* his ſonne 141. and *Chriſtierne Iohns* ſon 142. although others are of opinion they were titular kings onely, and rather intruders then true kings, and therefore the next ſhall be,

140 *Steno Sture*, ſiſters ſonne to the aforeſaid *Charles*, not onely repelled *Chriſtierne* and his army, now approached neere unto the walls of Stockeholme, but put both himſelfe & his whole army to flight, and kept him from invading the countrey any more. 140. Steno Sture. 1

He ſubdued alſo afterward the ſame kings ſonne *Iohn*, by meanes of ſome diſagreement betwixt him and *Swanto* by the helpe of the Ruſſians and ſome factious people brought in and

crowned. At length bringing backe the captive Queene to her husband *Iohn*, being then in Smalandia, having ſickned at a feaſt, dyed the 30. yeare of his reigne. A great magnanimous and vertuous Prince, but yet in this, as it were, exceeding himſelfe, in that hee refuſed the diademe royall being offered.

141 Suanto. 141 *Suanto*, Prince of the Oſtrogoths, and a counſeller of the kingdome was elected king of the Suetians. Having made a confederacy with thoſe of Lubecke, he made warre againſt *Chriſterne* the ſecond, ſonne to *Iohn* (whom many, (for the hatred they bare to the ſonne,) did earneſtly deſire) againſt whom while as hee is making great preparation, hee dyes 1512, and of his raigne the 8. He was a vertuous Prince, liberall, mild, intermingled with a gratefull ſeveritie.

142 Steno Sture 2. 142 *Steno Sture*, younger ſonne of *Suanto* ſucceeded in the government. This Prince by his prudence eſcaped the lying in wait of *Chriſterne* king of Denmarke, having ſent to the private conference whereunto he was ſolicited, *Gaddus* and *Guſtavus Ericſon*. Afterwards ſtoutly and valiantly oppoſing *Chriſterne*, now come into the field with a very great army, and himſelfe valiantly fighting, was at length ſhot thorow with a gunne.

He being now dead, and the Swediſh diſperſed and ſcattered, *Chriſterne*, by the Nobles of the Daniſh faction was crowned king; having at

a banquet the very day of his coronation, killed all the Nobility by him ſuſpected to bee of the contrary faction. But by reaſon of his extraordinary cruelty, the ſame moneth he came, was againe expelled the kingdome.

Now before we proceed to the orderly ſucceſſion of the enſuing kings, ſomething may bee ſaid concerning the king of Denmarke, and the originall of the claime he layes to the crowne of Sweden. *Chriſtierne* the 1. of that name (of whom ſomething hath been ſaid already, the whole royall race of Denmark being now quite extinguiſhed, of an Earle of Oldenburg, by the conſent of the Peeres of the kingdome, was elected king, and inſtalled in the throne Royall, and that chiefly by the commendation of *Adolphus* of Holſatia his mothers brother, and afterwards there ariſing ſome broyles and tumults in the kingdome of Sweden, the factious of the kingdome, of whom was chiefe *Iohannes Benedictus* Archbiſhop of Vpſalia, having before reiected their naturall king *Carolus Canutus*: and is the pretended right the Dane claimes to the kingdome of Sweden.

Something concerning the title the kings of Denmarke pretend to the crowne and kingdome of Sweden.

After his deceaſe *Iohn* his ſonne for the ſpace of thirty two years continued king of Denmark. He was in like manner by the factious Goths elected king of Sweden, after they had reiected *Steno* the elder, who had ſucceeded his mothers brother *Charles*: but was in a ſhort ſpace after by *Swanto* (being the meanes of *Hemmingus Gaddus*

dus Biſhop of Lincopia, by the conſent of the States of the land elected in the roome of *Steno*, againe driven out, and in many conflicts being ſtill put to the worſe, at length fled into Denmarke.

This *Suanto* ſhortly after dying, the Peeres of the kingdome after greataltereation (the Daniſh faction willing to ſet againſt him *Ericus Trollus*) the memory of paternall worth and vertue prevailing, made choice of *Steno Sture*, the younger ſonne of the aforeſaid *Suanto*. Two yeares after the death of *Suanto Chriſtierne* the ſecond, ſucceeded in the kingdome of Denmarke, the greateſt ſcourge that ever befell the kingdome of Sweden, who preſently reſolves to proſecute the pretended right, his father and grandfather had to this crowne,

Chriſtierne the 2 invades the countrey of Sweden.

Steno their new elected king ſeeing himſelfe now, as he thought, ſetled in the peaceable poſſeſſion of the kingdome, giving too much eare to flatterers (often too frequent in Princes Courts) and by their evill counſel ſeduced, committed many groſſe and fowle faults in his government; by which meanes there following an alienation of the minds of the Nobility, he loſt likewiſe at length the love of many of the commons alſo.

The Dane who left no wind unſailed to bring his purpoſe to paſſe, thinking it now good fiſhing in a muddy water, took eftſoone hold of this opportunity, and gathering together a great army,

army, he begirt Stockeholme round about: but *Steno* likewise with a great army opposing him, raised the siege.

The wind in the meane time being contrary for his returne into Denmarke, for the space of three moneths he was put to an extreame great strait for want of provision for his army. *Steno*, who used all possible meanes to winne his love and favour, with all meanes of necessary provision for his country into Denmarke, supplyed his present necessitie, granting him free leave to returne without any trouble or molestation. But this so great a curtesie and kindnesse was but ill requited. For foure yeares after, having about some matters of great importance, as he pretended, desired private conference with *Steno*, hee had almost yeelded to goe aboard the enemies ship. A great ingratitude.

Being then thus prevented, he wished *Steno* to send him some men of note as Ambassadors to conferre with him: and having sent *Gualdo* and *Gustavus* sonne to *Ericus*, and after king, against his oath and promise, carries them both captive into Denmarke.

This was but the beginning of the next yeres Tragedie.

Having then the next yeare gathered together a farre greater army then the former, he invaded the country of the Vestrogoths, and the battell being fought upon the ice, *Steno* being shot thorow the thigh with a gunne, dyes shortly after of

this wound, upon which followed the dissipation and dispersing of the Swedish army. Immediately after was *Christierne* by the Danish faction, in the principall city Stockeholme elected and crowned king: having also after a solemne manner sworne the confirmation of all their priviledges, and promised immunitie and pardon for whatsoever was past.

But the same day (fearing lest afterwards in his absence the sonnes of *Steno* might by the contrary faction be elected) having first commanded the gates of the City to be shut up, and invited to a feast the chiefe of all the Nobility of the contrary faction, in the sight of all the people, now trembling and quaking for feare, slew 94. of them, leaving their dead bodies in the great Court before the towne hall for the space of three dayes for a terrour to the people. The dead body of *Steno* was by the tyrants command taken out of the grave, and (as some write) after he had like a dogge torne it with his teeth, commanded to burne is to ashes with the others lately killed. The inhabitants were also by the rude souldiers, without any regard of sexe or age cruelly killed and murdered; and young children being hung up, their heads were cut off from their shoulders. The City was rifled and spoiled by the souldiers, and no manner of outrage and insolency omitted. After his departure from thence as some write) he went into a monasterie, where he was entertained after the best manner the Monkes.

Became barbarous cruelie.

More then inhumane cruelie.

Monkes were able: but after ſervice, being Candlemaſſe day, he commanded to take the Abbot and all his Monkes, tying them hand and foot, and threw them into a deepe river running by: the Abbot having by ſome meanes untyed himſelfe was ſwimming 'a ſhore; which being by him perceived, he cauſed to follow him with a boat and kill him.

Having thus committed many ontrages and inſolencies, the people of the land being much therewith diſtaſted, tooke courage, and about ſome 30000. in armes purſued him, now fleeing and maeching more by night then by day, untill at length he came into Denmarke. Bbing now ſo embrued in bloud, he could not refraine from crueltie even againſt his owne kindred, he was at length aſſanlted by *Frederick* Prince of Holſtein, ane thoſe of Lubecke, and his conſcience now affrighting him, with his wife *Iſabella* the Emperours ſiſter and his children, flees into Zeland, which was the third yeare after the maſſacre of Stockeholme. 1523

CHAP. IX.

143 *Gustavus Ericksen* I.

124 GVstavus I. called *Ericksen*, or sonne of *Ericus*, after long imprisonment, escaping out of prison, fled speedily out of Denmark, and was at length by the generall consent of the States now surviuing, accepted for king of the Realme; being thereunto well furthered by those of the City of Lubecke, which supplyed him with store of money.

This noble and praise-worthy Prince lived and reigned very peaceably with the love and good liking of his subiects the whole space of 38. yeares, and dyed in 1560.

Reformation of religion in the kingdome of Swedeu, An. 1560.

The most memorable of his acts (and was it not memorable indeed?) was that hee banished out of his whole kingdome and dominions the superstitious worship of the Church of Rome, and thorow his whole dominions caused them to professe the reformed religion, according to the confession of *Ausbourg* or *Augustane* confession. And because we account the Danes usurpation to haue beene no right possession, therefore according to Historians we make him to follow in order 143. immediatly after *Steno*, whose daughter some say he marryed, howbeit if he so did, we reade of no issue he had by her.

The

The first wife therefore by whom he had any issue, was *Katharine* daughter to *Magnus*, Duke of Saxony, and by her he had 1. *Ericus* who succeeded him in his government. His second wife was *Margaret*, daughter to a noble knight *Abraham Loboln*, governour of Vestrogothia, whom he marryed *An.* 1536. who bare unto him these children following.

1 *John* afterwards king of Sweden.

2 *Katharine*, marryed to the Earle of East-Freezland 1559. and bare to him *Enno*, *Gustavus*, *John* and *Christopher*, Earles of East Friezland.

3 *Cecilie*, marryed to *Christopher* Marquesse of Baden 1564. to whom she bare *Edward* called the Fortunate, *Christopher*, *Constans* and *Philip*.

4 *Magnus*, Duke of Ostrogothia, and dyed 1595.

5 *Steno*, and dyed a child.

6 *Anna*, marryed to *George John*, Count Palatine of Rhene, and Duke of Bavaria 1564. to whom she bare *George*, *Gustavus*, *John*, *Raphel*, *Annæ*, *Margaret*, and *Ursula*, marryed to the Duke of Wirtemberg.

7 *Charles*, who presently dyed.

8 *Sophia*, marryed to *Magnus* Duke of Saxonie 1568. and bare to him *Gustavus* Duke of Saxonie, who dyed at Holmia 1597.

9 *Elizabeth*, marryed to *Christopher*, Duke of Meckelburg, who had by her one only daughter, called *Margaret*, & married to the Megapolitane Duke.

10 *Charles*

10 *Charles*, Duke of Sudermania, &c.

This fruitfull Queene dyed in the yeare 1551.

After her decease he married againe *Katharine* daughter to *Gustavus Olaus*, Baron of Torpa, 1552. but had by her no children.

14 *Ericus* 8.

144 *Ericus* succeeded his father *Gustavus*, and was crowned in Stockeholme 1561. This king for a certaine time waged warre against the Danes and city of Lubecke, and drew upon himselfe the hatred and evill will of all his neighbours: and as though this had yet beene but a small matter, he irritated his own people, whom he exceedingly discontented.

His brother *Iohn* who had marryed *Katharine*, sister to *Sigismund*, king of Polands widow, did altogether mislike his brothers turbulent courses and enterprizes; who in his returne from Revalia into Livonia, left with the Polonian king his kinsman a great summe of money, for the which this being put into his hands as a pledge, certaine castles and commanderies in the countrey of Livonia.

This fact his brother (otherwise very suspicious) interpreted in the worst sense, as though his brother had beene combined and ioyned in league with the Dane and Polonian, and for this cause with his whole forces assaults his brother, takes himselfe, wife, and whole family prisoners in a towne of Finland, called Ako, brings them all with him to Stockeholme, where having first openly accused him, he cast him in-

to

to prison, where he continued for the space of foure whole yeares: besides, that he put to death many of his familiar friends and acquaintance. But at the foure yeares end the case is quite altered, his brother finding a meanes to free himselfe out of prison, takes his brother captive, and makes him drinke of the same cup he had before made him begin, with keeping him in close prison during his whole life time 1568.

145 *Ericus* thus iustly thrust out of his throne, his brother was with the unanimous, free and generall consent of the whole State elected king in his brothers turne. 145 *Iohn 2.*

During his reigne he had also great war with but especially with the Dane, the Muscovite or Russian. He was born 1537. and crowned 1569: He marryed first *Katharine* daughter to *Sigismund*, king of Poland, by whom he had,

1, *Sigismund*, now king of Poland.

2. *Anne.*

After this Queenes decease, he marryed one *Gunila*, daughter to one *Axelurs Bielke de Heresteter*, a noble Knight and governour of Ostrogothia, whom he marryed 1585. and by whom he had

1 *Iohn*, who in the yeare 1612. married *Mary Elizabeth*, daughter to *Charles* the 9. King of Sweden.

2 *Charles*, borne 1550 first Duke of Sudermania, *Nerika* and *Vermelandia*, and afterwards also elected king of Sweden.

This

This king *Iohn* constantly maintained the same religion of the *Augustane* confession, which his father had formerly professed; although underhand he suffered his sonne *Sigismund* by his mother *Katharine* to be educated in the Romish religion, which cost him no lesse then the losse of his kingdome of Sweden, as hereafter shall appeare.

And the better to secure his subiects of his constant perseverance in the religion he professed, he gave them his brother *Charles*, Duke of Finland (whom he loved dearely) for a pledge or pawne, that no innovation should therein be attempted, whom he also appointed by his last will and testament, during his sonnes absence, to be gouernour of the whole kingdome. This king dyed in the yeare 1592. 19. of November.

146 Sigismundus.

246 *Sigismundus*, sonne to the aforesaid *Iohn*, being before during his fathers life time in 1590 beene designed and appointed king of Poland (being during his fathers life time, elected king of Poland, where he also lived and reigned at the time of his fathers death) was in the yeare 1599 crowned king of Sweden, and the very day of the Epiphanie was appointed for this purpose. Now there was in the kings company one *Franciscus mala spina*, Bishop of Vrbin in Italy, the Popes *Nuncio*, whom the king and his followers much desired to performe the solemne rites of the Coronation: and this Prelate was of opinion, that if the States of Sweden had once given way

way to this beginning', the Romiſh religion might more easily afterwards be againe introduced. But againſt this with might and maine did *Adamus Andracanus*, then Archbiſhop of Vpſalia oppoſe, affirming, that it was flat againſt the lawes and conſtitutions of the kingdome that any other but the Archbiſhop of Vpſalia ſhould ſet the diademe royall upon his head: and beſides, that he muſt now ſweare to maintaine that religion now profeſſed within the kingdome of Sweden, according to the *Auguſtane* confeſſion, exhibited to *Charles* the fift Emperour, profeſſed by his grandfather *Guſtavus*, and his owne father *Iohn* the 3. and by a late ſynod holden at Vpſalia, by the whole ſtates of the kingdome confirmed; and that he ſhall not aſſigne or grant any Church or Churches in any towne of Sweden to any other religion then that of the *Auguſtane* confeſſion. And further, that during the time of his abode in Sweden, he ſhould be contented with the ſervice performed within the private chapell of his owne palace. Againſt this did oppoſe the Peeres and Nobles of poland that accompanied the king: howbeit the Peeres of Sweden were reſolute in their purpoſe, inſomuch that ſome dayes were thus ſpent in alteration. At length about mid Ianuary, ſeeing no remedy, it was agreed that the biſhop of Vpſalia ſhould performe ſuch rites as belonged to the coronation, which was accordingly performed.

The oath of Sigiſmund.

Ericus Sparre alſo Chancellour of the kingdome, adminiſtred unto the king his ſolemne oath; he reciprocally anſwering him, and promiſing firſt, that he would maintaine iuſtice and truth within his kingdome, and that he would puniſh and ſuppreſſe all iniuſtice and lying, that he would doe iuſtice to all the Swediſh nation, as well rich as poore, and that according to the lawes and ſtatutes of the kingdome, he ſhould governe the ſame, and that by the counſell and conſent of his brother Prince *Charles*, and the ſenate or counſell of the kingdome, that he ſhall conſult with the natural inhabitants of the kingdome, and not with ſtrangers: that hee ſhall bring no ſtrangers within the realme; that hee ſhall commit the caſtles and forts of the kingdome, and the deſerts of Vpſalia to none but the natiues of the countrey; that he ſhall impoſe no new tribute or taxe upon the ſubiects, unleſſe in caſe of great neceſſitie for the defence of the kingdome, in feare of any inteſtine commotion or ſedition: when the kings ſonne or daughter is to be marryed, when the king is to make any ſolemne perambulation thorow his whole kingdome, or ſomething for the reparation of the deſarts of Vpſalia ſhall be required.

Moreover, that he ſhould confirme all priviledges and immunities heretofore granted to the Peeres of the land, the whole people and the clergie thereof, and that by all meanes poſſible, he ſhould procure peace and tranquillitie to all his

his ſubiects; adding laſtly this clauſe to the oath, *So God be good to my ſoule and body as I from my heart ſweare to obſerve all the premiſſes.*

After this was a ſolemn aſſembly of the whole States of the kingdome, or a Parliament called at Stockeholme, wherein was conſulted of the goverament of the kingdome, during the kings abſence, and divers good and wholeſome lawes enacted.

In the moneth of Iuly next after the king departed againe into Poland.

But ſome few yeares after, hee was by the ſame States againe abdicated and quite reiected from ever having any right or intereſt in the government of the kingdome of *S*weden, and was in a Parliament holden at *S*tockeholme 1590. confirmed. Abdication of king Sigiſmund.

And againe, in another Parliament holden at Lincopia 1600. as well he himſelfe as all his iſſue and off-ſpring are for ever excluded from the ſucceſſion to the kingdome of Sweden. The reaſons were diuers, but eſpecially for ſending an army of ſtrangers into the countrey, quite contrary to his oath and promiſe; the which, if their plot had taken effect, might have overthrowne the whole State, beſides the ruine of religion. There were divers other cauſes publiſhed in print, as the ſtory mentions, the which I have not as yet ſeene. But withall in the abdication of this king, this condition was inſerted, that if within ſixe moneths after the finiſhing of

the laſt Parliament holden at Lincopia, this king *Sigiſmund* would ſend over into Sweden his ſon *Vladiſlaus*, to be governed and ruled by his Vncle prince *Charles*, and to be educated in the religion then profeſſed in the kingdome of Sweden; that aſſoone as he were come to yeeres capable of government, they would receive and acknowledge him for ever afterwards for their lawfull king and governour: the which motion not being entertained, nor yet any anſwer within this ſpace returned, their former decree of abdication of him and his ſeed was there ſolemnly ratified and confirmed.

Sigiſmund marryed firſt *Anna* daughter to *Charles*, Archduke of Auſtria, by whom hee had,

1. *Anna Maria.*
2. *Katharine.*
3. *Vladiſlaus*, deſigned for King of Polonia.
4. *Chriſtopher*, cut out of his mothers wombe, and ſhortly after, both he and his mother dyed.

Sigiſmund thus ſolemnely reiected, and put beſides the Crowne and Kingdome of Sweden, his brother *Iohn* next unto him, according to the ordinary courſe and cuſtome ſhould have ſucceeded: but by reaſon hee was ſuſpected to bee too much addicted to his elder brother, king of Poland, and therefore aſſigning him large and ample meanes ſutable to his

his birth and parentage, they made choice of the youngeſt brother *Charles* to take upon him the government of the kingdome, who notwithſtanding would not for a good while accept of the regale title.

Charles therefore at length, at the earneſt ſollicitation of the whole eſtates tooke the government upon him, borne in 1550. and at firſt, Duke of Sudermania, Nericia, and Verulandia, and after three yeares government without the regale title, at length in the yeare 1607. accepted of the ſame. 147 *Charles 9.*

This noble and worthy Prince ſwore to the maintenance of religion, and the lawes and conſtitutions of the kingdome, as hath beene lately declared, all which hee did accordingly performe. The Peere of the kingdome, for his worth and valour, and many good offices he had performed for the peace and preſervation of the State, were not onely contented this dignity ſhould be conferred upon himſelfe, but conſented alſo that the ſame ſhould be confirmed to his heires and ſucceſſours for ever, which fayling then was the ſame to return to his elder brother *Iohn*, and his heires male.

It was alſo agreed upon, that by reaſon of divers inconveniences ariſing from this root that ſometimes the kings of Sweden have accepted of another kingdome, and by that meanes often reſiding in another countrey; it was therefore likewiſe enacted and agreed upon,

An act against the accepting of a forreine kingdome, unlesse he resigne himselfe in Sweden.

that no hereditary Prince, and heire apparant to the crowne of Sweden, shall hencefoorth accept of any forreine kingdome, unlesse he resolve nevertheleſſe to live and continue in the same kingdome of Sweden.

His warres against Denmarke and Russia.

This noble king after he came to the Crown, waged warre with the king of Denmarke, and at one and the same time with the Russian also. For *Iuan Wasilicuitz Suski*, with many of the Peeres being in his chiefe City Mosco very straitly besieged by the Polonians, hee sent for aide and succour to this *Charles* king of Sweden; there being then great danger, not of the losse of the king and his Nobles onely, but even of the utter overthrow and ruine of his whole dominion.

This Prince therefore sent with great expedition under the command of *Iairus de la Garde*, Earle of Leecho, and Arch-marshall of the kingdome of Sweden, a great army, wherewith he raised the siege, overthrew the enemies forces, and set at libertie this distressed Prince, and all his Peeres.

The aforenamed *Suski* making shew of a gratefull acknowledgement of so great a kindnesse received, not onely promised, but also sealed some deeds, whereby hee freely gave unto this king *Charles*, and to his heires and successours kings of Sweden for ever, certaine territories and lordships, together with the townes, castles, and forts thereunto belonging. But the perfor-

mance was not answerable to promise: for this unthankfull perfidious Prince sent secretly to the captaine of one of his castles, wishing him with some forces to intercept those deeds, together with the money agreed upon for the souldiers pay. King *Charles*, by such an iniury irritated (and blame him not) raises againe new forces, invades the countrey (the Polonian having now likewise seized upon Mosco the chiefe City) he takes in Rexholme, and possesses himselfe of a great part of the countrey round about. But while he is now in the middest of his good successe, behold cruell *Atropos* suddenly cuts the thread of his life, and so by this meanes, together with his hereditarie dominions leaves likewise this warre to be finished by his sonne *Gustavus Adolphus*, at this time king of Sweden, whereof more hereafter.

He dyed of a great sickneſſe in a warre against Denmarke: *An.* 1611. *Octob.* 30.

His first wife was *Mary* daughter to *Lewes* Elector, and Count Palatine of Rhene, whom he married, *An.* 1579, and had by her,

1 *Margaret Elizabeth*, and died at the age of 5. yeares.

2 *Elizabeth Sabina*, who dyed also young.

3 *Lewes*, who died instantly after his birth.

4 *Katharine*, borne in 1584. and in 1614. marryed to the illustrous Prince *Iohn Casimir*, Prince Palatine of Rhene, and Duke of Bavaria.

[5 Gu-

5. *Gustavus*, who dyed a child.

6. *Mary*, who dyed also young.

This vertuous Queene dyed of her selfe in the yeere 1580.

His second wife was *Christina*, daughter to *Adolphus*, Duke also of Holsatia, who bare to him

1 *Christina*, who lived not long.

2 *Gustavus Adolphus*, the illustrious and victorious king of Sweden, and born *in anno* 1594 Decemb. 9.

3. *Mary Elizabeth* 1596. who in the yeare 1612. was marryed to *Iohn*, an hereditary Prince of the kingdome, and Duke of Ostrogothia.

4. *Charles Philippe*, a hereditary Prince, and Duke of Sudermania, Nericia, and Vermelandia 1601.

He dyed in Livonia unmarried.

CHAP.

CHAP. X.

Of the Noble, Illuſtrious, and invincible Prince, great Guſtavus Adolphus, *the 2. King of* Sweden, Goths, *and* Vandals, *&c. and ſome of his Acts before his entring into* Germany.

148 GVſtavus *Adolphus* borne the ninth of Decemb. 1594. as ſaid is, being but of a tender age for the ſwaying of the ſcepter royall, his father dying in 1611. he being then but 17. yeares of age, was crowned in 1617. Conſidering then his young yeares, and laying them in one ſcale, and the waight of affaires lying on his ſhoulders in the other, we may moſt iuſtly wonder and admire at Gods might and power in making him a fit inſtrument to effect ſuch matters, as I doubt not but after-ages ſhall admire the ſame. In the yeare 1620. he marryed *Mary Elinor*, ſiſter to the illuſtrious Prince *George William*, Marquis of Brandenburg, one of the Princes Electors of the ſacred Empire, who although ſhe bare him ſome children, yet lived they not long.

148 *Guſtavus Adolphus* 2.

long. In the yeare 1624. ſhe bare him a daughter,

1. *Chriſtina*, but dyed the ſame yeare.

The next yeare after ſhe bare him againe another daughter, called alſo

2. *Chriſtina*, yet living, and in the yeare 1627 ſhe was in a Parliament then holden at Stockeholme, declared heire apparent to the crowne of Sweden. It hath been a little before related how his father *Charles* the ninth of that name died, during his warre with Denmarke; and withall hath beene ſhewed, how at the ſame time the ſame Prince had hot warre with the Prince of Ruſſia: by which may eaſily appeare into what a labyrinth of troubles was this young king at his firſt comming to the crowne involved. In both theſe warres he carryed his affaires ſo well, that thorow the helpe of Almighty God he hath procured himſelfe ever ſince a firme and inviolable peace with that great Prince. He had with the Dane divers conflicts, yet alwayes demeaned himſelfe ſo worthily that he came off with great honour and credit; ſo that at length that great king ſeeing hee had to meddle with his match, was willing to accõodate his Martiall thoughts, to entertaine a treatie of peace: and ſo theſe two great Princes of mortall enemies, became loving and kind friends, and have ſince confirmed a ſtrait league of amity and friendſhip. As for the Ruſſian Prince, he had with him yet ſome greater difficulty to undergoe, there reſting ſome ſtrong,

His war with the king of Denmarke.

ſtrong, and almoſt impregnable places to be taken, and the evidences concerning ſuch territories, as the Ruſſian had, for good conſideration, aſſigned his father, to bee recovered. And although my purpoſe bee not particularly to enlarge my ſelfe upon all the ſeverall occurrances of this warre; yet are there in the ſame, ſome things to be obſerued, not unworthy the readers conſideration, whereof I will give but a touch.

His war with the Ruſſian Prince.

After his fathers deceaſe then, having ſetled the affaires of his kingdome at home, although he had to deale with ſo potent an enemie as the king of Denmarke, as hath beene ſaid already; yet did he not neglect this warre againſt the Ruſſian; and for this purpoſe prepared a great army to proſecute that which his father had left unfiniſhed. Now it is to bee underſtood that theſe forts and places hee tooke in from the Ruſſian Prince, are the ſtrongeſt holds, and as it were, the very keyes of all the Ruſſian dominion. That countrey is corruptly called Rexholme, from a ſtrong City and Caſtle ſeated in two little Ilands in the mouth of the river Woxen, in the one of which the Caſtle, and in the other the City is ſeated; although the right name of this countrey among Hiſtorians be knowne by the name Carelia. But among all theſe ſtrong holds & caſtles, none is to be compared with the ſtrong fort Notteburg, which hath therefore hitherto ever beene holden invincible, untill now of late

The countrey of Carelia corruptly called Reaholme taken in.

The invincible force of Notteburg

late experience hath taught us the contrary. It is built in a little Iland in the mouth of the ſwift river Nerva, and by reaſon of the breadth of the river could not be battered with ordnance. This ſtrong caſtle therefore being of ſo great importance, was never unfurniſhed. But the great God of heaven, who according to his good will and pleaſure, diſpoſes of all theſe ſublunary things, and infatuates the wiſedome of the wiſe, delivered this inuincible fort into the hands of an invincible Prince: a preſage, no doubt, of his future, great and glorious victories. But the manner is yet more admirable: for within the ſouldiers were not unfurniſhed of ſufficient foode, and the enemies force (as ſaid is) they needed not much to feare; but within their mouthes and throats there grew ſo many great warts, that although they had food ſufficient, yet could they not feed on the ſame, nor yet ſwallow down any ſuſtenance, for the which cauſe they were forced to ſurrender this ſtrong fort into his maieſties hands. And ſo he that made the walls of *Iericho* at the ſound of a rammes horne to fall downe, to make a way for his owne people of *Iſrael* to enter this City, found out this way to take in this invincible fort. And whoſoever ſees not the ſame providence accompanying & proſpering him in this ſo great a warre now undertaken againſt the whole power of the *Auſtrian* houſe and the Catholike league, I thinke is more then pur-blind. There is in that ſame countrey another ſtrong

The ſtrange manner of taking in the Caſtle of Nottenburg.

Caſtle,

Caſtle *Iuanogorod*, ſeated on the top of a high rocke, in an *Iſthmus*, or narrow plaine, a great part thereof being environed with this ſwift river. And although on the weſt ſide, as it looketh towards the river it might be batered; yet both that way, as likewiſe both the ſouth and north parts were well defended by this river; and on the eaſt there was a low valley, digged by natures owne induſtry, where the people had their habitation, the countrey about being plain and levell, and ſo high that the ordnance could touch onely the tops of the turrets, and goe no lower. Neither yet was there any undermining by reaſon of that ſoile which was altogether rockie. This fort notwithſtanding, together with the former 2. and many more were by this ſame king taken in the yeare 1617, in ſo much that this great Prince was then put in no ſmall feare of looſing all or the greater part of his dominion, whereof there was then no ſmall danger. Wherefore the great Knezor or Duke, *Michael Feodorouitz*, ſonne to the former perfidious *Iuani Vaſilienitz Suſki*, earneſtly ſuing for peace, it was at length by the mediation of king *Iames* of famous memory effected, and in the yeare 1618. fully finiſhed and agreed upon. And thus were thoſe aforementioned townes and forts, and divers others belonging to this *Carelia Ruthenica*, or countrey of Rexholme, together with all the deeds and evidences thereunto pertaining, reſigned over and delivered in-

The taking in of the ſtrong fort *Iuanogorod*.

to the hands of this king, and for ever annexed unto the Crowne of Sweden; and all other places during this warre taken from the Ruſſian, againe to him reſtored; as in the articles of agreement in 18. more at length is to be ſeene. Neither was this king then paſt 21. yeares of age, when he had brought to a happy end two ſo great and important warres. Now after this happy and peaceable concluſion, having eſtabliſhed peace in al his Prouinces, he gaue not himſelf over to his luſtfull pleaſures (as is often too cuſtomary with young Princes) nor to drowne himſelfe with ſinnefull delights; but gaue himſelfe wholly to beautifie and adorne this peaceable kingdome, whereof ſhee was now fully poſſeſſed: which could no better be effected, then by confirming the ancient good and wholeſome lawes and conſtitutions of the kingdome, adding ſome others as occaſion required. And therefore, as was already touched, he not onely reinforced the former lawes and conſtitutions concerning trafficke and commerce betwixt the ſea townes, but added alſo divers others, tending to that ſame purpoſe; together with many other things, whereon for brevity I may not now inſiſt.

Confirmation of the ancient lawes concerning traffick: and commerce betwixt the ſea townes.

But that he might leave a perpetuall memoriall to the Chriſtian world, that he was as well a favourer of *Minerva* as of *Mars*, hee hath left thereof a ſufficient proofe to all after ages. During the reigne of *Ericus Balbus*, the then Archbiſhop

bishop of Vpsalia, *Iezlerus* instituted and founded in the same City a colledge of 4 professors; and afterwards the number of professours being increased, together with an addition of far greater meanes, it was in the yeare 1476. by Pope *Sixtus* the 4. erected into the forme of an Vniversitie, and adorned with the like priviledges, as that of Bononia. This Vniversitie by iniurie of time and devouring warres being much endammaged, and having lost much of it's ancient splendour and beauty, was again by the late deceased *Charles* the 9. as it were, out of her ashes not onely restored to former dignity and splendor, but a good encrease also added to her former beauty. And this same invincible king now living, to testifie to posterity the love he beareth to learning, hath so encreased both the number of learned professors and their maintenance, that now it may well be compared with many of the best Vniversities of Europe; and lest it should at any time hereafter by reason of the want or uncertainty of meanes come to ruine or decay, did in the yeare 1624. out of his owne revenues settle upon the same very great and large means, and confirmed the same in most large and ample manner, and made the possession of these lands and rents, as sure and firme as the best Noblemans of the kingdome.

The Vniversitie of Vpsalia is by him much enriched and adorned.

This Prince, after he had lived a few yeares in peace, was againe intangled in a new warre with his Vncle *Sigismund* king of Polonia, in the which

His war with his Vncle Sigismund king of Poland.

which he tooke from him many ſtrong townes and forts of no ſmall importance, without any loſſe to himſelfe (for he made warre in his enemies countrey) both in the kingdome of Poland, it ſelfe, in the Duchie of Lithuania, and in the rich countrey of Pruſſia; ſo that if this king had continued as he began, and affaires of a higher nature and ſtraine had not invited him another way, notwithſtanding the ayde the Emperor his brother in law ſent him, he had, perhaps, ere now beene deprived of a great part, if not of all his great dominion. The which by him wiſely, and in time foreſeene, he earneſtly ſued both to our gracious kings maieſtie now living, and to the king of France to mediate a faire agreement betwixt him and his nephew; the which was accordingly performed the 29. of Septemb. 1629. a truce and ceſſation of armes beeing for ſixe yeares after enſuing there agreed upon: by vertue of which agreement the king of Sweden reſtored againe to his Vncle many places by him taken in the kingdome of Poland, and Duchie of Lithuania; howbeit he reteineth ſtill many good townes and caſtles in the countrey of Pruſſia. The particular articles of their agreement for avoiding tediouſneſſe of ſet purpoſe I here paſſe by; and who ſo is deſirous to ſee the ſame, may have recourſe to the hiſtories.

THE

The entring of the Invincible king of Sweeden, great Gustavus Adolphus into Germanie with a great Armie, Anno 1630. With a touch of some principall exploits by him since that time atchieved and brought to passe.

Rudolphus, Earle of Halsburg, being in the yeare 1274. crowned Emperour at Aquisgranum or Aix, layed the first foundation of the greatnes of the *Austrian* house. This Prince then besides that with many great lordships, partly by force and violence, and partly by purchase he much increased his hereditary dominions; the country of Austria also by want of a lawfull successour fell into this Emperors hands to dispose of, which he eftsoone conferred upon his sonne *Albertus*. Into this Austria then were incorporated all these other dominions. *Rudolphus* being dead, *Adolphus* Earle of Nassau was elected Emperor, and afterwards by the aforesaid *Albertus* killed, who got himselfe afterward chosen Emperour. This Prince likewise spared no paines, but improoved his utmost powerfull meanes for the increasing of this already grounded greatnes. And this made him so eager an enemy to the

Helvetian liberty, labouring by all meanes, direct or indirect, to hooke in whatsoever he could compasse to make his sons great, and to advance the now rising Austrian house; yea, so eager was he in prosecuting his purpose, that he spared not the very monasteries and religious houses, but either bought out right what might thus bee purchased, or else procured himselfe and his sons to be made patrons and protectors of such ecclesiasticall places, a fitte way for future possession. But the unjust murder of his predecessor, being by his own brothers sonne revenged (who killed this ambitious *Albert*) and all his covetousnesse and ambition now layed in the dust, the Princes of this Austrian house, as they had now & then their turnes in this supreame authority, so were they not wanting to themselves and successors, but as time and opportunity were offered, went on in their predecessors footsteps. At length, after the death of *Sigismund* the Emperour in the yeare 1438. another *Albert* of this Austrian house, and sonne in law to the aforesaid *Sigismund* was elected Emperour; the which his successors (having now yet once againe gotten the ball before them) have kept close unto themselves almost for the space of 200 yeares, even unto this very day; having also afterwards added to their former greatnesse the kingdome of Hungaria, Bohemia, with the appurtenances thereof, Silesia, Moravia, the one and other Lusatia, and become also at severall times, Lords

Albert killed.

Another *Albert* Emperour.

Wonderfull greatnes of the house of *Austria*.

and

and maſters of Stiria, Carinthia, and Sicelia, and by marriage afterwards gotten in the Low Provinces. At length *Charles* the fifth (as though this houſe had not yet bin great enough) brought for his ſhare the kingdomes of Spaine and Portugall, together with all the kingdomes and dominions thereupon depending: as namely the kingdome of Naples, Sicilie, and Duchie of Milan, beſides the Weſt-Indies, and all the riches of that Weſterne world, with ſome thing in the Eaſt-Indies alſo. All this notwithſtanding, this great Monarch, according to his *phantaſie*, not contented with all theſe dominions, aimed yet further at the ſubverſion and overthrow both of true religion and the liberty of Germany, and began to act ſuch a tragedy in high Germany, as his ſonne *Philip* afterwards attempted in the low countries, for the which cauſe to have Pope *Leo* the 10. for his friend, as he had before inthe-matized *Luther*, ſo this Emperor ſo act his part, proſcribes him. This plot for a while ſucceeded according to his wiſhes, inſomuch that *Iohn Fredericke*, Prince elector, and the Landgrave of Heſſen Profeſſors and maintainers of the true reformed religion preached by *Luther*, and the Germane liberty were in open field overthrown their forces diſperſed, and they themſelves taken priſoners. But at length, *Maurice*, Duke of Saxonie, the Emperours Generall, and newly poſſeſſed, not onely of his kinſmans eſtate and poſſeſſions, but of his electorate dignity alſo,

Charles the 5. attempted the overthrow of true religion, together with the Germane liberty.

contrary to the Emperours expectation, turning his power against himselfe, forces him, not onely to a restitution of the captives, but likewise to a setled peace and liberty of religion within the whole Germane countryes: and so it did here plainely appeare how God brought light out of darknes.

The Iesuites, the incendiaries of the Christian world, envying the peace and prosperitie of the same, as in other parts, so in this countrey of Germany have they laboured to overthrow and subvert both the State of the true reformed Church and common-wealth. And although they have been a long time projecting such a plot, yet could it not so conveniently be brought about, untill such time as *Fredericke primus*, Palatine Elector, having accepted of the Bohemian Crowne, being freely and lawfully thereunto elected, this viperous generation, being of a martiall breed, failed not to lay hold on such an offered opportunitie, and therefore cease not to incense and stirre up the Emperor *Ferdinand* the 2. (of himselfe sensible enough of any thing that might but in shew derogate from the dignity of the Austrian house) to prosecute that which before had been projected. And thus was this Noble Prince deprived not onely of his kingdome of Bohemia, but of all his hereditary dominions and electorate dignitie. And whereas many ignorant of the Iesuites farre fetched secret stratagems, did verily believe that now they were

attained

attained to the utmost end they aimed at, it appeared farre otherwise. For now the fire that so long lay covered under the ashes breakes foorth, and sets upon a sudden all these flourishing Provinces of Germany on fire: and the vizard now removed their purpose was made manifest to the blindest eye-sight, to wit, the totall ruine and overthrow of the true religion in many, yea in most places of Germany professed, the reducing of them againe to the Romish superstition, and utter overthrow of the liberties of the Romane Empire: whole deignes whosoever in defence of Gods cause and liberties of their owne countrey, did any way oppose, have been in most barbarous manner prosequted and persecuted with fire and sword, and many forced to forsake their ancient inheritances to save their lives and keepe a good conscience, in still professing that religion wherein they had heretofore beene brought up. Others againe more pusillanimous and loath to loose all for Christ, yet besides a shamefull and perfidious abiuration of that truth which before they had professed, were yet notwithstanding forced to yeeld to such slavish and servile conditions, as the insolency of a victorious enemy was pleased to impose upon them.

When this tyranny had now at least, for the space of tenne yeares beene after a rigid manner prosecuted, it pleased Almighty God of his infinite goodnesse, all other meanes now failing, in pitty and compassion to his poore afflicted

Church; now destitute of the least appearance of any humane helpe, to raise up meanes of deliverance, where, I am sure, it was least expected, euen that illustrious and victorious king of Sweden, Captaine of the Lords host.

Gustavus Adolphus, King of the Swethens, Gothis, and Vandals, arriued in Pomer, in February, *An.* 1630, and landed neere unto the Isles of Rugen, and Vidome, at a little village, called Pennemund, with no more at the first, then 6000 souldiers. Himselfe comming on shoare, falls downe, and powres out this vnto God, *O Lord, thou that rulest ouer the Heauens, the earth, and the vast sea, I cannot sufficiently giue thee thanks, that thou hast preserued me so graciously in this perillous tourney, O Lord I render thanks vnto thee, and giue praise vnto thee, from the very bottome of my heart, beseeching thee seeing thou knowest, that this voyage, my purpose and intent tends not to my owne, but onely to thy glory and honour, and for the comfort and helpe of thy afflicted Church, that if now the time, and appointed houre be come, Assist me further with thy grace and blessing, & grant me a prosperous wind, and good weather, that I may behold the rest of my Army with a toyfull eye, which I haue left behind me picked vp, out of diuers nations, to the end that with them, I may aduance forward thy holy worke. Amen.*

The Kings Officers and Councell, stepping on land after him, and hearing such a zealous prayer, comming from him in this manner, could not forbeare weeping, which the King perceiuing,

sayd

ſaid vnto them, *Weepe not my friends, but pray fervently, from the bottome of your hearts, the more yee pray; the more victory God will giue you, for earneſt prayer is more then the gaining of halfe a battle.* It ſeemes, ſince that time, that the Kings prayer hath auailed much with God, and how mightily the Lord hath been with him, in taking in many countries, cities, and townes, in ouerthrowing the Emperours inuincible Army, and that of the Catholike League, and the mighty increaſing of his Armie, ſince his firſt landing. Other particulars may giue ſatisfaction to the Reader; to God the onely author, and giuer of them, be giuen immortall praiſe. Amen.

FINIS